Channel Tunnel Rail Link **Kvaerner Construction Ltd.** for Union Railways (South) Ltd.

# BROCKTON FARM, CHARING HEATH, KENT

Archaeological record in advance of and during dismantling

NGR: TQ 9220 4890

Environmental Statement Route Window 28





Oxford Archaeological Unit April 2001

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Oxford Archaeological Unit April 2001

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# BROCKTON FARM, CHARING HEATH, KENT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD IN ADVANCE OF AND DURING DISMANTLING

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# BROCKTON FARM, CHARING HEATH, KENT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD IN ADVANCE OF AND DURING DISMANTLING

#### Summary

The Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) was commissioned by Kvaerner Construction Ltd (KCL) to undertake a programme of archaeological recording in advance of, and during the dismantling of the Grade II Listed farmhouse at Brockton Farm, Charing Heath, Kent (NGR: TQ 9220 4890).

The study of the farmhouse has revealed a substantial portion of a 17<sup>th</sup>-century roof structure above the north range of the main two-storey block of the house with evidence for two original projecting gables to the north and an attached rear wing to the south. This roof is related to two surviving substantial 17<sup>th</sup>-century floor frames at first floor level and an eaves level ceiling frame at the western end of the northern range. A section of contemporary framed southern wall was also identified. This evidence has allowed for a fairly detailed reconstruction of a substantial 17<sup>th</sup>-century timber framed house built around a surviving brick stack with four original fireplaces (two at each level). Within the eastern section of the 17th-century roof structure, elements of a pre-17<sup>th</sup>-century gabled wing have been identified, although the extent of survival is too limited to allow for a confident attempt to be made at a reconstruction. The structural evidence for a building of relatively high status has been supported by documentary sources which would appear to indicate that Brockton Farm may in fact represent the original medieval Manor house.

Much of the  $17^{th}$ -century building, and the evidence for the form of its precursor, has been destroyed in the course of subsequent phases of adaptation and modification, notably the underbuilding of three exterior walls in brick in the late  $18^{th}$  century. At this time, the plan of the house was enlarged to produce an approximately square plan with an attached pentroofed extension to the south. Details of the extensive use of structural ironwork within the  $18^{th}/19^{th}$ -century development of the farmhouse were recorded.

The later structural development of the farmhouse has been traced through an analysis of the fabric and a total of seven distinct phases of work have been identified. Of particular interest was a 'spiritual midden' deposit retrieved from behind a studwork partition wall at first floor level; the deposit comprised a selection of leather shoes, garments, personal objects and three 'mummified' cats.

Archaeological excavation has proved disappointing in adding to our understanding of the building, any trace of early arrangements having been effectively destroyed by previous phases of extension and alteration of the house. A timber 'cutting shoe' for a brick lined well was retrieved during a watching brief on site clearance and landscaping work.

A majority of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century elements of the building, including all timbers, a total of c.3000 bricks and representative samples of other contemporary construction materials have been salvaged during the demolition process and have been deposited with the Weald and Downland Museum, Singleton, West Sussex, where they will form a part of the museum's reference and educational collection. In addition, a number of early 19<sup>th</sup>-century sash windows and fittings have been removed by the Brooking Architectural Collection, University of Greenwich.

The study has served to significantly enhance our understanding of the building's development and while the early origins of the house remain, to an extent, obscure, the retention of the timbers at the Weald and Downland Museum leaves open the possibility of

their future detailed analysis at a level beyond the scope of the current study. It is to be hoped that such analysis may serve to further enhance our knowledge of the early form and functional development of the building.

# BROCKTON FARM, CHARING HEATH, KENT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD IN ADVANCE OF AND DURING DISMANTLING

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

#### 1.1 **Background to the Project**

The Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) was commissioned by Kvaerner Construction Ltd (KCL) to undertake a programme of architectural survey and archaeological evaluation at Brockton Farm, Charing Heath, Kent (NGR: TQ 9220 4890) in advance of and during demolition in advance of the construction of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL) in whose path it lies (Figure 1). Brockton Farm is a complex comprising a farmhouse, barn and oasthouse, all of which are grade II Listed Buildings. There are also three unlisted outbuildings within the curtilage; a pigsty, stable and shed (see Figure 2). The oasthouse is located c.60m to the north of the farmhouse and remains unaffected by CTRL works. The current survey concentrated upon the structure of the farmhouse itself though a rapid survey and evaluation was made of the series of associated outbuildings.

#### 1.2 **Reasons for Work**

- 1.2.1 Planning Background
- 1.2.1.1 During the passage of the CTRL bill through Parliament, undertaking No. 0340 was given to Ashford Borough Council (ABC) in respect of a number of Listed Buildings. The undertaking allowed for the demolition of Brockton Farmhouse and required the nominated undertaker to ensure that the barn was dismantled and re-erected for an appropriate re-use at a suitable location with the co-operation of ABC and Kent County Council (KCC).
- 1.2.1.2 The CTRL Act 1996 disapplies the requirement for obtaining Listed Building Consent for the demolition of these buildings, however the nominated undertaker was required to obtain agreement under the Deed of Heritage (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) from ABC for the necessary works to the structures. A heritage Deed submission (ref: 400/ASH/1/H3) covering the demolition and dismantling of the Farmhouse and Barn where relevant was submitted and subsequently agreed by ABC on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1998 (application no. 97/3103/AS).
- 1.2.2 The controlled dismantling of the farmhouse was undertaken by M. Daly of Gillingham, Kent under the supervision of OAU. A record of the farmhouse prior to and during its demolition was carried out with the aim of identifying as far as possible the plan form of the original house and its subsequent phases of development. Archaeological monitoring was maintained throughout the demolition process with a view to completing and enhancing a pre-demolition survey of the building undertaken by OAU in January 1999.
- 1.2.3 In addition to the study of the farmhouse and associated outbuildings, an archaeological evaluation of the site was undertaken. A two stage approach was adopted; firstly, in advance of demolition works, a series of trial trenches were excavated in and around the farmhouse; secondly, following the completion of the dismantling process, the footprint of the farmhouse building itself was the subject of further, detailed investigation.

1.2.4 The recording work forms a part of a wide ranging programme of archaeological recording and excavation work undertaken along the route of the proposed CTRL. The pre-demolition survey was undertaken in accordance with a detailed 'Specification for Building Investigation and Recording' prepared by OAU (December 1998) and approved by Rail Link Engineering (RLE). A watching brief undertaken during the phased demolition process was undertaken in accordance with a separate 'Method Statement for Demolition' prepared by OAU (June 1999) and approved by KCL and RLE.

# 1.3 **Presentation of this Report**

1.3.1 The report covers both the building archaeology and the below-ground evaluation elements of the archaeological investigation of the farm. Following a summary of the site location and topography  $(\S.2)$ , section  $\S.3$  provides a brief historical background of the farm. Section §.4 presents a review of the recording methodology employed The description and interpretation of the farm buildings during the project. themselves are presented in sections §.5 and 6. Section §.5 presents an interpretative summary of the phased development of the farmhouse and a detailed architectural description of the farmhouse and subsidiary buildings as recorded. Section §.6 presents a more detailed interpretation of the phased development of the structure based upon the recorded evidence and other sources. Section §.7 details the observations of the archaeological trial trenching undertaken before dismantling and the watching brief which took place following the removal of the standing buildings. Finally section §.8 provides a summary of the conclusions drawn as a result of the investigations.

# 2 SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 2.1 Brockton Farm is situated to the south side of the Charing Heath-Egerton Road, on the northern embankment of the M20 motorway, *c*.3km to the south-west of the village centre of Charing (NGR: TQ 9220 4890; Figure 1a). Brockton lies in the southern part of Charing parish, at the south-east corner of Charing Heath, a triangular area of common surrounded by a number of farms and cottages
- 2.2 The farm is located atop a north-south aligned ridge, from which the land slopes away to the west and to the east. There is a shallow stream to the easternmost boundary of the site.
- 2.3 The underlying geology of the area, as recorded in the Geological Survey of Great Britain (Ordnance Survey, Sheet 288, 1976), is complex. The Pleistocene drift geology consists of 4th Terrace river gravels and Head Brickearth. The underlying solid geology is recorded as Cretaceous Lower Greensand Sandgate Beds. The geology accounts for the linear arrangement of heathlands running across the parishes.

# **3** ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 3.1 Historical Background

- 3.1.1 Within Charing parish, Brockton probably lay historically in the 'borough' of Field. In the Hearth Tax of 1664, four people in Field had four or more hearths, a certain George Withick being recorded with six. In the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, George Withick bought the Manor of Brockton from the heirs of Thomas Paine, and it later passed via a female heir to Charles Bargrave of Eastry. Withicks land was on the south side of Brockton Heath.
- 3.1.2 It seems unlikely that the house currently named 'Brockton Manor' (previously known as Brockton Cottages), 500 m to the east of Brockton Farm, in fact relates to the medieval Manor house. From an analysis of the 1664 Hearth Tax returns, manorial records and Charing tithe records, Sarah Pearson (*pers comm.*) concludes that Brockton Farm in all likelihood represents the medieval Manor of Brockton, largely rebuilt on the site of an earlier large house which had become derelict by the 17<sup>th</sup> century. However, conclusions regarding the relative status of the buildings could only realistically be made if both houses were of the same date. Actual title deeds for the farm have not been identified, nor have the deeds held by the Rail Link been located.
- 3.1.3 On the 1840 Tithe map Brockton is shown with its present extent (but excluding the Oast House) in the ownership of John Vincent and in the occupation of John Brenchley.<sup>1</sup> The size of the farm was over 120 acres, of which 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> acres were hops, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> acres were orchard, and about 65 acres arable (Figure 1b). It is entirely possible that part of this farmland (now truncated by the M20 motorway) was taken out of an earlier and larger area of heathland.
- 3.1.4 On the 1st edition OS 25-inch map of c.1860 (Figure 1c) all the existing farm buildings are shown, with the exception of the small stable (Outbuilding B).

# 3.2 **Previous archaeological work**

3.2.1 An archaeological evaluation of the fields surrounding Brockton Farmhouse was carried out by OAU between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> August 1998. It revealed two possible prehistoric gullies, one possible Romano-British pit, five post-medieval features and two modern features. In addition 14 other pits and ditches were recorded, which are likely to have been of post-medieval date. The post-medieval features probably resulted from agricultural activities associated with Brockton Farm. The results of this evaluation have been previously reported; 'Brockton Farm, Charing, Kent, ARC BRO 98: Archaeological Evaluation Report' (URL, December 1998).

Maidstone, Centre for Kent Studies.

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#### 4 RECORDING METHODOLOGY

#### 4.1 **Pre-Demolition Survey**

#### 4.1.1 *Extent of Survey*

- 4.1.1.1 The present study focussed on the structure of the farmhouse building itself. However, a rapid appraisal was made of the series of associated farm outbuildings, comprising an outline measured survey, written and photographic record. Brockton Barn, though outside the curtilage of the farm complex for the purposes of the current study, has been included for the sake of completeness, reference having been made to previous work (Watts and Partners, 1994).
- 4.1.2 *The Base Survey*
- 4.1.2.1 The farmhouse and adjacent outbuildings were surveyed using a RecElta TC500 EDM. The base survey was related to CTRL PGM RL410 (located at the western end of the M20/Egerton Road bridge). Within the farmhouse, floorplans at each level were generated using MBS planning software, and were related to a three dimensional control framework established by EDM.
- 4.1.3 The Drawn Record
- 4.1.3.1 In addition to the floorplans generated for the base survey, representative longitudinal and transverse sections of the farmhouse were made. Record drawings were at a scale of 1:10 and/or 1:20, at A1 format, on archivally stable drafting film. Details were recorded at a scale of 1:10 and/or 1:5 as appropriate. A register of project drawings is included below as Appendix C.
- 4.1.3.2 The series of associated outbuildings (barn, shed and pigsty) have been the subject of a rapid measured survey at a scale of 1:50. URL HB No.172 (demolished following storm damage in 1994) has been the subject of a previous OAU study; the results of a rapid measured survey are included here for ease of reference.
- 4.1.4 Stripping Out
- 4.1.4.1 Internally, a limited amount of stripping of wall and ceiling plaster was undertaken in response to specific questions regarding the fabric of the building, specifically the extent of survival of primary timber framing within the northern range, and to allow detail to be added to the base survey.
- 4.1.5 *The Photographic Record*
- 4.1.5.1 A full black and white negative and colour slide photographic record was made of all exposed features. In addition, a general record of the appearance of the buildings within their immediate context was made. A register of project photographs is included below as Appendix C.

#### 4.1.6 The Written Record

4.1.6.1 Written descriptions of the farmhouse were made on a room by room basis using proforma recording sheets including details of walling materials, ceiling and floor structures, window details, features and fittings.

#### 4.2 **The Demolition of the Farmhouse**

- 4.2.1 The Demolition Process
- 4.2.1.1 A locally based, non-specialist company (M. Daly of Gillingham, Kent) was retained by OAU as demolition sub-contractor for the main phase of the project. The demolition process was supervised and monitored by OAU on a full-time basis throughout the course of works.
- 4.2.1.2 Full details of the phased demolition process may be found in 'Brockton Farm, Charing Heath, Kent: Method Statement for Demolition' (OAU, June 1999).
- 4.2.2 Enhancement of the Base Survey
- 4.2.2.1 The phased demolition process was carefully programmed to allow maximum access to previously inaccessible areas of the building for supplementary investigation and archaeological recording. A full drawn and photographic record was made of all exposed features.
- 4.2.3 Ex-situ Recording of Timbers
- 4.2.3.1 The principal members of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century roof structure (wall plate, ties, main beams etc.) and the floor frames at first floor and eaves level were recorded *ex-situ*, in particular those faces of the timbers not accessible while they were *in-situ*. Drawn records were made at a scale of 1:20 paying particular attention to patterns of peg holes and redundant mortices.
- 4.2.4 Salvage Strategy
- 4.2.4.1 As a requirement of the Main Contract 430 for the construction of Sections 1 and 2 of the CTRL, a 30% sample of materials of historical interest were to be salvaged during the demolition process. To this end, a detailed salvage strategy was established by OAU in collaboration with representatives of the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton, West Sussex and with the Charles Brooking Architectural Collection, University of Greenwich. A full register of salvaged material is given in Appendices D and E.

#### 5 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

#### 5.1 Introduction

In this section, a description of the farm buildings will be given in three sections. Firstly a general description of the farm complex will be given ( $\S.5.2$ ) with summary descriptions of the associated outbuildings, followed by a summary of the development of the farmhouse ( $\S.5.3$ ) to inform the description of the exterior elevations ( $\S.5.4$ ) and internal arrangements ( $\S.5.5$ ) of the Farmhouse itself.

#### 5.2 General Description

5.2.1 The Farm Complex

The farm complex at Brockton comprises a farmhouse of irregular plan, with a series of subsidiary buildings comprising barn, stables (outbuilding A), shed (outbuilding B), and pigsty (outbuilding C) arranged around a small, semi-enclosed yard (Figure 2). These subsidiary buildings are briefly described below.

- 5.2.2 *The Barn*: Grade II listed (Figures 3 & 4)
- 5.2.2.1 The barn is of double aisled form, timber-framed of three bays and is aligned N/S with a projecting porch within the central bay to the west. The overall dimensions are 18m long  $(N/S) \ge 9.20$ m wide (E/W), and the barn measures 8.5m to the apex. The exterior walls are of regular studwork upon ragstone plinths and are clad with featheredged weatherboarding, the roof is half-hipped and thatched (save for the junction with the porch roof where it is clad in plain peg tiles). Internally, long braces extend between splay-headed aisle posts and ties/aisle-plates (see Figure 3). The arcade plates employ edge-halved and bridled scarfs, and the ties are jointed with double dovetails. The roof is of plain A-frame type, with high collars lapped and single pegged onto the principal rafters. A central threshing floor (bay 2) is delimited by partially surviving, low boarded partitions. Projecting extensions are located at the northern and southern ends of the west elevation and partly enclose a yard of which the farmhouse forms the western limit. The 'external' elevations of the extensions are in brick (north) and stone (south), the elevations facing onto the yard are again clad with feather-edged weatherboarding. The extensions have pitched roofs with claspedpurlins and are clad with plain peg-tiles. The southern extension is gabled to the west; that to the north is hipped.
- 5.2.2.2 The barn lies outside the curtilage of the farmhouse as defined for the present survey and is not reported in detail here. The structure has previously been the subject of a Condition Survey (Watts and Partners, 1994) in addition to a detailed measured study (undertaken on behalf of URL) prior to its dismantling for re-erection at Ratsbury near Tenterden. The barn was not examined as a part of the current recording programme; the description included here is based upon previous surveys, including Watts and Partners' Condition Survey and the RLE measured survey of 1998.
- 5.2.3 *Outbuilding A*: Stables: unlisted (Figures 5 & 6)
- 5.2.3.1 The former stables were located to the NW of the barn and to the NE of the farmhouse. Probably of 18<sup>th</sup>-century date, now demolished, the stables were the subject of a rapid measured survey by OAU under salvage conditions following extensive storm damage in 1994. The overall dimensions were 13.7m (N/S) x 5.00m (E/W) x 2.50m to eaves (5.75m to apex). The stables were aligned approximately N/S. The walls were of brick construction (in English bond) with well made, hipped,



butt-purlin roof (purlins in line and not staggered: common rafters in two lengths pegged to purlin). Traditional fittings formerly survived in the stalls.

- 5.2.4 *Outbuilding B*: Shed: unlisted (Figures 7 & 8)
- 5.2.4.1 Outbuilding B is located *c*.30m to the NE of the farmhouse. It is rectangular in plan and is brick-built (in Flemish bond) with gabled roof, and is aligned on an approximately N/S axis. The overall dimensions of the shed are 8.90m (N/S) x 5.00m (E/W) x 2.50m tall to eaves (5.20m to apex). Access is via a single, central door in the west elevation, set between two symmetrical, two-light segmental-headed windows. A third window of similar form is set high within the southern gable. The interior of the shed was not inspected as part of the current project. The shed is of late 19<sup>th</sup>-century date, and is not shown on the First Edition OS map of *c*.1860 (Figure 1c).
- 5.2.5 *Outbuilding C*: Pigsty: unlisted (Figures 9 & 10)
- 5.2.5.1 Outbuilding C is of mixed brick and stone rubble construction, and is located c.15mto the SW of the barn. The overall dimensions of the building are 7.85m (N/S) x 5.00m (E/W) x c.2.0m to eaves (3.90m to apex), and it is aligned on an approximately N/S axis. The bi-partite plan comprises two separately roofed elements. To the north; a gabled structure 5.00m x 2.90m (aligned E/W) x c.3.75m to apex is predominantly of stone-rubble construction with quoins and detailing in brick (Figure 10c). Access is via a doorway in the west elevation, while a single segmental-headed window with brick detailing is set high in the eastern gable. The roof is of common rafter type with a plank section ridgepiece. Appended to the south of this structure is a N/S aligned extension in brick (mixed, non-specific bond including some saltglazed brick), though with stone footings visible to the east and south. Low level openings are evident in the southern (open: Figure 10b) and eastern (blocked) elevations. Above these, in the east elevation, are a series of vertical ventilation slits. Brick patching at high level in the southern gable denotes the location of a former window opening (still visible internally). The roof is of common rafter type with a single tier of clasped purlins. Internally, the southern part of the southern structure is partitioned off into two stalls by a low stone wall. The structure is clearly of two phases of construction though probably both dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century; the northern section is indicated on the Tithe Award map of 1840 (Figure 1b) while the structure is shown in its present state on the First Edition OS map of c.1860 (Figure 1c).
- 5.3 **The Farmhouse:** Outline Phasing

An outline phasing of the development of the farmhouse structure as identified during the dismantling process is included here to provide a framework for the detailed description given below. The phasing of the building, and the evidence upon which it is based, is discussed at more length in section §.6.

5.3.1 *Phase I* (pre-17<sup>th</sup> century)

The first phase of the farmhouse was identified from the evidence of five timbers within the eaves and first floor frames. The implied structure was a two-storeyed, north-south aligned gabled cross-wing located to the eastern end of the northern brick-built block of the extant structure. The overall proportions and form of the primary building remain unknown, though it is likely that the identified wing represents only a part of a more substantial structure.

5.3.2 *Phase II* (early 17<sup>th</sup> century)

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the house was substantially rebuilt though retaining the primary cross-wing. The Phase II structure is represented in the extant building by the surviving timber floor frame at level 2 (GF01, GF05, GF06), by elements of framing

around the (contemporary) central brick stack, and by further framing in the south wall of the north range at ground and first floor levels. All further primary framing would appear to have been removed during phase III (see below) at which point the northern range was underbuilt in brick. The building survey has indicated that the 17<sup>th</sup> century structure was furnished with a southern range, while a watching brief on groundworks has exposed a probable contemporary cellar.

5.3.3 *Phase III* (late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century)

The next identifiable phase of adaptation comprised the construction of an additional range to the south of the Phase II structure (GF02/03/04), producing a building of approximately square plan. The construction of the southern range was in brick in single Flemish bond. During the same phase of work, the exterior walls of the northern range were underbuilt in brick to produce a uniform external appearance, resulting in the loss of much of the Phase II framing. An additional stack was raised in the eastern part of south wall serving a large fireplace at ground floor level only. Joinery details contemporary with this phase of work including the series of sash windows recorded throughout the main block (and in particular the sash shutters of GF05 and GF06) suggest a late  $18^{\text{th}}$ - / early  $19^{\text{th}}$ -century date for the extension of the building.

5.3.4 *Phase IV* (Mid 19<sup>th</sup> century)

The addition of a rectangular, lean-to kitchen block (GF07/FF12) to the south of the Phase III structure. The block is of stone rubble construction with brick plinth, quoins and window detailing. The use of identical materials for the construction of a small, detached ?stable block (GF13) suggests that it represents a contemporary addition.

- 5.3.5 *Phase V* (late 19<sup>th</sup> / early 20<sup>th</sup> century) The construction of a small store (GF09) and larder (GF10) adjoining the south wall of Phase IV extension.
- 5.3.6 Phase VI (mid 20<sup>th</sup> century) Phase VI comprises the connection of the main structure and the ?stables (GF/13). Infilling of doors within GF13 to create windows contemporary with the construction of the stack in west wall – thus implying a change to a more domestic function.
- 5.3.7 *Phase VII* (late 20<sup>th</sup> century) Construction of a lean-to conservatory (GF14) to extreme southern end of range.

# 5.4 **The Farmhouse: exterior**

5.4.1 The North Elevation

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The walling of the north elevation is in brick, laid throughout in single Flemish bond<sup>2</sup>. A double offset brick plinth runs the length of the east elevation. The roof is hipped at each end; the slope to the west (c.65° to the horizontal) is steeper than that to the east (c.55° to the horizontal). A massive, quadruple brick stack rises off-centre to the east while a further single stack is located at the west end. The elevation displays a total of six window openings, three each at ground and first floor levels respectively; single-light sashes are located to the to the east and west, while two superimposed,

*Single Flemish Bond*: bonding which gives the appearance of Flemish bond (alternate headers and stretchers in each course) to the exterior face only of a wall wider than one stretcher in depth. Internally, the walls at Brockton take the appearance of English Bond (alternate courses of headers and stretchers) with timber lacing between every seven courses of brickwork.



triple-light sashes are located off-centre to the west. Located off-centre to the east (mirroring the triple light sashes to the west) are two blind windows which correspond to the location of the main stack.

5.4.2 The South Elevation

The walling of the main block (visible to the west only) is in brick, laid throughout in single Flemish bond. A double offset brick plinth runs the length of the east elevation (and continues internally on this wall line). The eastern section of the main block is obscured by the series of southern extensions. A tall, brick stack in stretcher bond rises above pent roofed extension (GF07).

5.4.3 The East Elevation

The east elevation of the main block presents a uniform, essentially symmetrical elevation to the yard and represents the principal façade of the farmhouse. Walling is in brick, laid throughout in single Flemish bond. A double-offset brick plinth runs the length of the elevation. At ground floor level, single, triple-light windows (timber sash to the north, iron casement to the south) are located each side of a central doorway with gabled porch (incorporating reused timber of unknown provenance). The ground floor fenestration is mirrored at first floor level by two further triple-light casement windows, with a further double-light opening casement above the central porch. The roof is double hipped. A large, quadruple stack in stretcher bond, rises centrally to the northern roof, a further, tall single stack rises on the line of the southern wall of the main block.

5.4.4 The Southern Extension

To the south of the main block a two storey, pent-roofed extension continues the southern slope of the southern roof. The ground floor of the extension is in ragstone rubble with brick quoins and detailing around a doorway with porch to the north and a double light casement window to the south. The wall again displays a double-offset brick plinth. The upper floor was formerly tile-hung (Figure 12d) and is furnished with a central, two-light iron casement.

5.4.5 The West Elevation

The west (rear) elevation of the main block is asymmetrical in appearance and relatively free of architectural detail. Walling is in brick, laid throughout in single Flemish bond. A double-offset brick plinth runs the length of the elevation. A doorway, with single-light vertical sash window above, is located slightly off-centre to the south between two tall, double stacks which are in Flemish bond, though this changes to stretcher bond above eaves level. A single, iron casement window is located at ground floor level between the doorway and the northern stack. The roof is hipped to north and south.

# 5.5 **The Farmhouse**: interior

#### 5.5.1 *Reference Terminology*

5.5.1.1 For the purposes of the present study, a system of room numbering was adopted to enable the consistent numbering of records. Each room was assigned a unique reference comprising a two figure room number preceded by a two letter prefix

denoting basement (BT), ground floor (GF), first floor (FF), and roof (RF) respectively. The numbering sequence is illustrated in Figure 13 and is listed below.

Room Number	Function / Location	Room Number	Function / Location
BT01	Store	GF13	Formerly detached ?stable
BT02	Store	GF14	Conservatory
BT03	Store	FF01	Bedroom
GF01	Living room	FF02	Bedroom
GF02	Entrance lobby / Reception room (former kitchen)	FF03	Lateral Corridor
GF03	Lateral Corridor	FF04	Bedroom
GF04	Sitting room	FF05	Bathroom
GF05	Living room	FF06	Bedroom
GF06	Kitchen	FF07	Access
GF07	Kitchen (former pantry?)	FF08	Bedroom
GF08	Lobby	FF09	Bedroom
GF09	WC	FF10	Store
GF10	Larder	FF11	Store
GF11	Access	FF12	Bedroom
GF12	Access		

#### Table 5.1:Room Numbering System

#### 5.5.2 The Basement

- 5.5.2.1 The basement of the house extends under the western part of the main two-storey brick-built block. It is accessed via a descending stair from the eastern reception room (GF02; former lateral corridor) facing onto the main front of the house. The walls are of stone rubble construction with brick detailing to openings. The basement is contemporary with the late 18<sup>th</sup>-century extension of the house and the underbuilding of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century framed walls in brick (Phase III).
- 5.5.3 The Ground Floor (Figure 14)

#### General

5.5.3.1 In plan, the farmhouse can logically be broken down into two distinct elements. Located to the north is a rectangular, brick-built 'main block' (11.90m N/S x 14.25m E/W) representing the coherent, Phase III underbuilding and extension of the early 17<sup>th</sup>-century range. Appended at the eastern end of the south elevation of the main block, a series of additions and extensions (GF07-GF14) represent a multi-phase development of the building dating from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to the later years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This developmental process has resulted in a less ordered pattern for the southern part of the farmhouse. The ground plan of the main block comprises two ranges of rooms arranged to north and south of a central corridor (GF03) which survives in its original state to the west only; to the east, the southern wall of the corridor having been replaced by an open, stud partition re-utilising salvaged timbers of unknown provenance. The northern range comprises three rooms, arranged to the east (GF01) and west (GF05/06) of the massive, brick-built Phase II stack.

#### Room GF01

5.5.3.2 Room GF01 is located to the east of the Phase II stack; it has overall dimensions of 5.30 m (N/S) x 4.05m (E/W). It is accessed via a doorway in the south wall from the entrance hall (GF02; formerly an extension of lateral corridor GF03). The northern and eastern walls represent exterior walls and are in brick (English bond internally) with timber lacing, dry lined with studwork supporting lath and lime plaster render. The room is lit by windows in these two exterior walls. Offset slightly to the west in the north wall is a single-light vertical sash window with 6-pane panels and splayed, recessed reveals formerly housing folding leaf shutters (removed at time of survey); central within the east wall is a triple-light vertical sash window with splayed, recessed reveals formerly housing folding leaf shutters. The side panels are two-pane while the central panels are four pane. The south wall is of studwork construction with applied fibreboard; a doorway offset to the east gives access (via a single step up) to the entrance lobby / sitting room (Room GF02). The western wall is dominated by a massive 'inglenook' fireplace with central grate and side cupboards. This fireplace represents a secondary insertion though the plain chamfered timber lintel of the original 17<sup>th</sup>-century fireplace (of equally large proportions) survives. The scale of the fireplace may indicate an original function as a kitchen. The boarded floor is modern and is supported upon east-west aligned joists which rest upon a central north-south aligned brick built sleeper wall of two courses with a timber plate. The ceiling of GF01 represents a surviving 17th-century floor frame and comprises a main north-south aligned beam supporting 12 common joists to east and west. The frame is described in more detail in §.5.5.4.2 below.

#### Room GF02

5.5.3.3 Room GF02 forms the south-eastern room of the enlarged Phase II structure with the addition of the eastern section of the contemporary lateral corridor GF03. Its maximum dimensions of 5.35m (N/S) x 8.25m (E/W). The eastern and southern walls represent exterior walls and are of exposed brickwork with timber lacing. The north wall is of studwork construction with diagonal bracing and incorporates a number of re-used timbers (evidenced by various chamfered pieces and redundant mortices) at 0.36m centres. The wall was formerly rendered with lath and plaster. The location of a former partition wall is indicated by a series of regularly spaced stud mortices recorded in the soffit of a ceiling joist, 5.58m west of the eastern exterior wall. The western limit of the extant room is defined by an inserted stud partition wall with diagonal bracing and brick nogging infill. The room is lit by a single window in the east wall; a three-light recessed casement with splayed reveals which extend to floor level and accommodate a window seat. Offset to the eastern end of the south wall is located a large, brick-built fireplace with timber lintel, the scale of the fireplace suggests that GF02 may have been originally constructed as the Phase III kitchen. To the west of the fireplace a large opening has been created giving access to GF07, while a further door in the south west corner of the room gives access to the exterior (this doorway was probably adapted from a former window).

The eastern 4.75m of lateral corridor GF03 had been incorporated into room GF02 by the removal of its southern wall and its replacement by an open frame of re-used timbers. The framing comprises three vertical posts with arch bracing; the central of the three is a substantial, re-used floor beam  $(0.34m \times 0.22m)$  with ovolo chamfers and redundant diminished haunch mortices. The original sill beam of the partition wall survives and displays regularly spaced (0.38m centres) mortices for the original studwork, these being reflected in the beam over. In addition, distinct wear patterns

discernible on the sill beam indicate the location of the original doorway from GF03 to GF02 at a distance of 2.00-2.80m west of the eastern wall.

Flooring is in brick throughout, the section within the former lateral corridor being raised by 0.12m relative to the main area of the room.

#### Room GF03 (Lateral Corridor)

5.5.3.4 Room GF03 forms an east-west aligned lateral corridor located to the south of the Phase II range (GF01/05/06). Accessed by an exterior door in the west wall and originally extending the full depth of the farmhouse and providing access to all ground floor rooms, the corridor has been effectively truncated by the removal of its southern wall for the eastern 4.75m of its length and its replacement by an open frame of re-used timbers of unknown provenance, the eastern part of the former corridor having been incorporated into the enlarged lobby/entrance hall GF02. The surviving length of GF03 measures 1.75m (N/S) x 8.30m (E/W). Doorways within the north wall give access to rooms GF05 and GF06, while to the south access is provided to GF04; wear patterns in the surviving sill beam indicate the original location of the doorway serving GF02. The north wall of GF03 is of particular interest as it represents the southern wall of the surviving Phase II range and retains elements of the original frame. This frame (Figures 28a and 32a) comprises a sill upon brick sleeper wall, two wall posts (including a full height storey post) mid rail and girths at the level of the first floor frame; sufficient detail survives to attempt a partial reconstruction of the Phase II frame (Figure 32b). Set against the eastern section of the north wall is the main stair rising to first floor level.

#### Room GF04

5.5.3.5 Room *GF04* forms the south-eastern room of the extended Phase III brick built 'main block'. It has overall dimensions of 3.25m (N/S) x 4.55m (E/W), and is accessed from the lateral corridor (GF03) to the north via a doorway offset to the east in the north wall. A further, narrow opening offset to the north within the east wall provides access to GF02. The western and southern walls represent exterior walls and are of brick construction laid in single Flemish bond with timber lacing courses, dry lined with studwork supporting lath and lime plaster render. The north and east walls are of studwork construction (0.06-0.08m x 0.12m @ 0.38m centres) with diagonal bracing. The north wall has applied lath and plaster render while the east wall has been infilled with brickwork in stretcher bond. The room is lit by a single light vertical sash window with 8-pane panels located centrally within the south wall. The window has splayed reveals formerly housing folding leaf shutters (removed). A brick fireplace with segmental arch and iron support strap is located centrally within the west wall.

#### Room GF05

5.5.3.6 Room *GF05* is located to the west of the Phase II stack; it has overall dimensions of 5.15m (N/S) x 3.55m (E/W). It is accessed via a doorway to the south from the lateral corridor GF03. The northern wall represents an exterior wall and is of brick construction (English bond internally) with timber lacing, dry lined with studwork supporting lath and lime plaster render. The east wall is similarly dry lined, the studwork being applied directly to the primary brickwork of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century stack. The fireplace (removed at time of survey) is located slightly off-centre to the north of

the wall; the chamfered timber lintel and rounded, rendered brickwork jambs of a primary fireplace (1.75m wide x 1.42m tall) survive, the details similar to those recorded in GF01, FF01 and FF08. The southern jamb of the fireplace retains an area of crudely executed, painted imitation ashlarwork (Figure 29a).<sup>3</sup> Offset to the north, a six-panel door gives access to a cupboard occupying the area between the stack and the northern exterior wall. The south wall represents a surviving section of 17<sup>th</sup>-century framing comprising studwork with lath and daub panels, sill beam, mid-rail and girth (Figures 28a and 32). The fine quality of the ceiling timbers, combined with the small scale and decorated fashion of the fireplace indicate that GF05 was originally a high status room, probably the parlour, of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century house.

#### Room GF06

5.5.3.7 Room *GF06* is located to the west of GF05. It has overall dimensions of 5.15m (N/S) x 2.95m (E/W) and is accessed by a doorway in the south wall from the lateral corridor GF03. The northern and western walls represent exterior walls of the phase III structure and are in brick (English bond internally) with timber lacing; the northern wall is dry-lined with studwork supporting lath and plaster render while the western wall has paint applied directly to the inner surface of the brickwork. The eastern and western partition walls represent secondary insertions (Phase III) and are of studwork at 0.45m centres (including a number of re-used pieces) with lath and plaster render. The soffit of the north-south aligned ceiling beam displays a series of redundant mortices for studwork and posts indicating the location of the original partition wall (see §.5.5.4.3 and Figure 33). The room is lit to the north by a single light vertical sash window with 6-pane panels and recessed perpendicular reveals, furnished with doors, which formerly housed the pulley mechanism for two-part vertical sliding shutters. The vertical shutters would have been stored beneath the hinged sill when not in use. A further window in the western wall is iron framed and of three lights, representing a 20<sup>th</sup>-century insertion. A fireplace is located in the centre of the west wall, the recess to the north is occupied by a cupboard.

#### Room GF07

5.5.3.8 Room *GF07* represents the Phase IV extension of the main block of the farmhouse. It has overall dimensions of 4.40m (N/S) x 5.65m (E/W) and is appended to the eastern half of the south wall of the main block. The room is accessed from the outside via a vertical plank door with strap hinges. Internal circulation is provided by a wide opening made in the north wall giving onto GF02 while a passage (GF08) located centrally within the south wall provides access to service rooms GF09 and GF10. Walling is in ragstone rubble throughout with brick dressings to window and door openings, save for the north wall of the room which, representing the former external wall of the Phase III farmhouse, is in brick with offset stone footings. Centrally located within this is the large brick stack, laid in English bond, serving GF02. A door to the east of the stack gives access to a nine tread wooden winding stair serving the upper room of the extension (FF12). A brick fireplace is located in the off-centre to the east of the south wall. GF07 is lit by a four windows; in the southern part of the east wall, the eastern end of the south wall and two casements in the west wall. The room is floored in 0.23m x 0.23m square quarry tiles.

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A similar design survives very fragmentally on the northern jamb.

#### Room GF08

5.5.3.9 Room GF08 comprises a corridor leading of the south side of room GF07 providing access to service rooms GF 09 and GF10. Its overall dimensions are 2.15m (N/S) x 1.15m (E/W). Doorways in the east and west walls give access to GF10 and GF09 respectively. A further planking door in the south wall formerly gave access to the exterior passageway between the main house and detached block GF13 (though this space has subsequently been enclosed to form GF11/12). Walling throughout GF08 is in whitewashed brick and the floor is of 0.30m x 0.30m square quarry tiles.

#### Room GF09

5.5.3.10 Room *GF09* is a small service room, most recently fitted out as a WC, located to the west of corridor GF08 at the southern end of the south farmhouse range. It has overall dimensions of 1.50m (N/S) x 1.40m (E/W). It is accessed from GF08 via a door in the east wall and from GF12 (formerly from the exterior) by a door in the south wall. The room is lit by a single high level window in the south wall adjacent to the doorway. The northern and western walls are of ragstone rubble construction while the eastern and southern walls are of brick, laid in stretcher bond. Flooring is in brick.

#### Room GF10

5.5.3.11 Room *GF10* is a small service room, fitted out as a larder, located to the east of corridor Gfo8 at the southern end of the south farmhouse range. It has overall dimensions of 1.4m (E/W) x 1.55m (N/S). It is accessed from GF08 via a single doorway in the west wall. Walling is rendered and whitewashed brick, in the case of the south wall, the brickwork being built upon a ragstone rubble offset wall. The interior of the room is furnished with a series of marble shelves to north, south and west. The room is lit by a small window set high in the south wall. The ceiling is open to the underside of the pitched roof, gabled to the south, while flooring comprises a modern concrete slab.

# *Rooms GF11* / *12*

5.5.3.12 Rooms *GF11* and *GF12* represent the enclosing of the former 1.26m wide east-west aligned passageway between the southern end of the farmhouse range and the detached structure GF13. Wooden doors give access to the exterior to east and west while the space is divided into two by an ephemeral timber stud partition.

#### Room GF13

5.5.3.13 Room *GF13* represents a formerly detached rectangular structure (?stables) located to the south of the main farmhouse. It is aligned north-south and has overall dimensions of 5.70m (N/S) x 3.70m (E/W). The structure is singled storeyed and of ragstone rubble construction with brick detailing to openings. The roof is fully hipped and of softwood construction with a single tier of clasped purlins and a plank section ridge piece, standing 3.58m to the apex. The room is accessed from GF11 via a doorway in the eastern part of the north wall. In the eastern wall, two former door openings with rounded brick jambs have been partially infilled in stone and converted to windows. The south wall of the room has been removed to allow free access to the modern



pent-roofed conservatory (GF14). A fireplace has been inserted in the south-west corner of the room. The floor is flagged.

#### Room GF14

- 5.5.3.14 Room *GF14* is a modern, pent-roofed glass house or conservatory appended to the south wall of GF13. Its overall dimensions are 2.60m (N/S) x 3.70m (E/W). Low walls of stone construction are capped with tile and support softwood framing and glass walls. The room is accessed from the north from room GF13 and from the exterior via double doors in the west wall.
  - 5.5.4 The First Floor (Figure 15)

#### General

5.5.4.1 At first floor level, the plan of the house essentially constitutes the upper level of the two-storey brick built Phase III house, though with the addition of the upper floor of the pent-roofed southern extension (FF12). The northern part of the main block (that lying to the north of the present stair) comprises two complete Phase II floor frames dating to the 17<sup>th</sup>-century modification of the house, and re-uses two sections of a primary, Phase I girth immediately east of the brick stack. These floor frames will here be described independently of the room subdivisions which, being later insertions, do not respect the 17<sup>th</sup>-century arrangements. The southern range of the main block, by contrast, comprises a plain softwood floor frame of common joists, contemporary with the Phase III extension of the house to an approximately square plan.

#### The Phase II Floor Frames (Figures 18 and 19)

- 5.5.4.2 To the east of the Phase II brick stack (within room FF01), the flooring at first floor level comprises an almost complete oak frame, truncated only slightly to the north by the Phase III underbuilding of the north wall in brick. The principal beam of the floor structure (A; Figure 18, 0.32m x 0.24m scantling) is aligned north-south and carries a total of 12 paired common joists (0.10m x 0.12m scantling) to east and west. Beam A is plain chamfered; to the south it displays a stepped run-out stop while to the north, the original stop has been truncated at the time of the underbuilding of the north wall in brick, where the beam is carried by the Phase III window lintel. Common joists are jointed to the principal beam by housed and shouldered soffit tenons, secured by single pegs. The eastern joists display a consistent scheme of numbering (I-XII, from north to south) at their western ends; no corresponding numbering was observed in the western joists. To the east, the joists are embedded in to the brickwork of the eastern exterior wall or are supported by the timber lintel of the phase III window of GF01, while to the west they are carried by a Phase III girth (two sections of Phase I girth survive slightly to the west of this Phase III timber: see Figure 25a).
- 5.5.4.3 To the west of the brick stack, a second, contemporary floor frame survives within room FF08 and the eastern part of FF09. Two principal floor beams (B&C; Figure 18) are aligned north-south, spanning the north range; the eastern example (B) being supported by an intact full height storey-post to the south. The storey-post at the southern end of beam C also survives, though only fragmentarily having been heavily truncated both above and below the level of the first floor frame (Figure 32). A secondary floor beam (D) is aligned east-west and is jointed to the primary beams by single tenons with diminished haunch, double-pegged. It measures 0.27m wide x

0.28m deep and displays ovolo chamfers to the soffit. Tertiary (bridging) floor beams (E&F) are aligned north-south, central to the span of beam D to which they are jointed, again by soffit tenons with diminished haunches, double pegged. The chamfer stops to the beam soffits at the junction of D, E and F are enhanced by unusual carved 'spandrel' decoration (Figure 27). The southern limit of the floor frame is defined by a surviving Phase II girth (G) which extends, in three sections, from immediately east of the principal stack as far as the west wall of the brick built house. Floor beams E and F carry a total of 12 paired common joists (0.10m x 0.12m scantling), jointed with housed soffit tenons with diminished haunches, secured by single pegs and displaying plain chamferred soffits with stepped run-out stops. Common joists display a consistent pattern of carpenters numbering marks; I-XII (east) and XIII - XXIIII (west), marks being located at the east end of the joist in each case. The western limit of the floor frame if defined by beam C; the upper face of C displays two post-mortices and an off-centre, longitudinal groove indicating the former existence of a studwork partition wall with a presumed door opening at the northern end. The soffit of beam C (visible within GF06) displays a series of regularly spaced, rounded mortices for studwork and posts indicating the arrangement of a former partition with a doorway offset slightly to the south of centre.

5.5.4.4 The evidence of peg holes and redundant mortices in the western face of beam C imply the continuation of the Phase III structure. A central, double-tenon mortice with paired peg holes indicates the location of a former east-west aligned floor beam on the line of beam D to the east. This beam was removed, presumably at the time of the creation of the western stack and replaced by two smaller joists trimmed around the slab for the fireplace in the west wall. The joists of the extant floor, which include a number of re-used pieces, though tenoned and pegged, are unchamfered and clearly not consistent with the higher quality work to the east. They may represent either a more utilitarian, contemporary floor or, more likely, a secondary insertion contemporary with the underbuilding of the exterior walls in brick.

#### The Phase III (south range) Floor Frame

5.5.4.5 The first floor of the southern range comprises a softwood frame of late 18<sup>th</sup>- / early 19<sup>th</sup>-century date, contemporary with the enlarging of the ground plan and the underbuilding of the phase II range in brick. The floor is supported on a total of 34 north-south aligned common joists of small scantling (av. 0.065m x 0.165m) at 0.38m centres which span the range from the south wall, where they are embedded into the phase III brickwork.

# Room FF01

5.5.4.6 Room *FF01* is located to the east of the main Phase II stack and has overall dimensions of 4.30m (E/W) x 4.5m (N/S). It is accessed from the first floor landing (FF03) by a doorway in the western end of the south wall and is lit by windows in the north and east walls. The northern and eastern walls represent Phase III exterior walls and are in brick (English bond internally) with timber lacing, dry lined with studwork supporting lath and lime plaster render. The west wall is a survival of the Phase II structure and is of framed construction with lath and daub infill and a central integral fireplace. The fireplace has been renewed and reduced in scale on two occasions (Figure 29b), however, the chamfered timber lintel of the original fireplace survives and is similar to those recorded in GF05 and FF08. Studwork and secondary lath and plaster render have been applied to the surface of the plaster during the Phase III reordering. The southern wall is also of Phase II framed construction with lath and

daub infill panels, again covered with secondary studwork and lath and plaster render. In the north wall is a central single-light vertical sash window with 6-pane panels and splayed reveals formerly housing leaf shutters. In the east wall, slightly offset to the south of centre, is a three-light iron casement window with perpendicular reveals. A doorway to the north of the fireplace in the west wall gives access to a storage cupboard occupying the space between the brick stack and the northern exterior wall.

#### Room FF02

5.5.4.7 Room FF02 is the central room of the main front (east) elevation of the house. It has overall dimensions of 2.80m (N/S) x 3.20m (E/W) and is accessed from landing FF03 via a doorway in the south end of the west wall and from room FF01 via a doorway set in the western end of the north wall. The east wall of the room comprises a secondary (Phase III) brick-constructed wall (English bond) with plaster applied directly to the brickwork. The north wall is formed of Phase II framing (as recorded in room FF01, see above) with inserted secondary studding supporting lath and plaster render. The elements of the Phase II framing retain traces of whitewash. The southern and western walls are of secondary studwork construction with applied lath and plaster render. The room is lit by a two-light window with timber frame (with rounded chamfered mullion); northern light fixed, southern side opening 6-pane panels offset to the south of the east wall. Flooring is of softwood boards over the Phase III floor frame described in §5.5.4.5 above.

#### Room FF03

5.5.4.8 Room FF03 forms a lateral access landing, aligned east-west and has overall dimensions of 1.90m (N/S) x 5.35m (E/W). Doorways give access to rooms FF01 and FF07 to the north, to FF04, FF05 and FF11 to the south, to FF02 to the east and to FF06 to the west. The north wall retains elements of Phase II framing also recorded at ground floor level in room GF03, viz: two girths at the level of the first floor frame, tenoned and single pegged into the full height jowled wall post visible within FF10 (see  $\S.5.5.4.15$ ). The upper face of the girths are grooved to accept studwork. The Phase II studwork of the first floor level has been removed and replaced by secondary studwork incorporating re-used timbers which support lath and plaster render; however, redundant peg holes and mortices allow for a partial reconstruction of the Phase II frame (Figure 32b). The southern, eastern and western walls are of secondary (Phase III) studwork with applied lath and plaster render. The central area of the north wall is occupied by the rising stair from ground floor level. Flooring is of softwood boarding over the Phase III floor frame described in §5.5.4.5 above.

#### Room FF04

5.5.4.9 Room *FF04* is located at the south-east corner of the extended Phase III, brick built 'main block'. It has overall dimensions of 3.55m (N/S) x 4.30m (E/W) and is accessed from FF03 via a doorway set into the western end of the north wall. The eastern and southern walls represent Phase III exterior walls and are of brick construction with timber lacing and are finished with plaster applied directly to the surface of the brickwork. A doorway at the east end of the south wall gives access, via a three tread descending stair, to room FF12, to the west is a small access hatch to the flue of the chimney serving GF02. The northern and western walls are of studwork construction with applied lath and plaster render. A doorway offset to the



north of the west wall gives access to room FF11. The room is lit by a three-light iron window with timber frame (rounded chamfered mullions) with an opening central light, set centrally within the east wall.

#### Room FF05

5.5.4.10 Room *FF05* is located to the south of lateral access landing FF03 from which it is accessed via a doorway at the eastern end of the north wall. It has overall dimensions of 3.60m (N/S) x 2.60m (E/W), and was most recently fitted out as a bathroom. The south wall represents a Phase III exterior wall and is of brick construction laid in Single Flemish bond (English bond to the interior) with timber lacing and plaster render applied directly to the surface of the brickwork. Offset to the west is a two-light timber window with opening casements (modern). The north wall is a Phase III stud partition with applied lath and plaster render, while the west wall is of timber studding with brick nogging infill (as in GF04/E) with plaster render applied directly to the surface of the brickwork. The east wall is an ephemeral, inserted stud partition wall with lath and plaster render subdividing an original larger room comprising FF05 and FF11 to the east, which is accessed by a narrow door opening slightly off centre to the north of the wall.

#### Room FF06

5.5.4.11 Room FF06 forms the south-west corner room of the extended Phase III 'main block'. It has overall dimensions of 5.40m (N/S) x 4.80m (E/W) and is accessed from landing FF03 via a doorway offset to the north of the east wall. The southern and western walls represent Phase III exterior walls and are of brick construction laid in single Flemish bond (English bond to the interior) with timber lacing courses and studwork lining supporting lath and lime plaster render. The western wall includes a contemporary brick fireplace (modified for the insertion of a cast iron surround and grate) offset slightly to the south of centre. The northern and eastern walls are of studwork construction, that to the east (= FF05/W) having been infilled with brick nogging. The studwork of the north wall employs a number of re-used timbers. The northern section of the east wall (up to and including the southern jamb of the doorway) is offset by 0.35m to the west from the southern stretch of wall; the resulting angle to the south of the doorway is infilled with curved chipboard panel (modern). The room is lit by two single-light vertical sash windows in the western and southern walls. That in the south wall has 8-pane panels while that in the west wall has 6-pane panels; both have splayed, recessed reveals formerly housing folding leaf shutters (removed at the time of survey).

#### Room FF07

5.5.4.12 Room *FF07* comprises a circulation space to the south of room FF08 serving to provide access from landing FF03 to the north western rooms of the first floor level (FF08/09/10). It has overall dimensions of 0.90m (N/S) x 2.40m (E/W) and is accessed from FF03 via a doorway in the south wall. Doors in the north, east and west walls give access to rooms FF08, FF10 and FF09 respectively. All walls are party walls with other rooms and are described elsewhere.

#### Room FF08

5.5.4.13 Room FF08 is located to the west of the principal Phase II brick stack and has overall dimensions of 4.40m (N/S) x 3.65m (E/W). It is accessed from the first floor landing (FF07) via a doorway located centrally within the south wall. The east wall of the room retains elements of Phase II framing comprising two uprights and a mid-rail, infilled with daub applied to laths. Offset to the south of the wall is a primary fireplace (1.24m wide x 1.20m tall) with a plain chamfered timber lintel and rendered, rounded brick jambs (Figure 29c), similar to that recorded in FF01. Two phases of modification to fireplace are apparent. Framing is exposed and painted black. Secondary lath and plaster render to the north of northern upright. The northern wall is a Phase III, brick-constructed wall laid in Single Flemish bond (English bond internally) with timber lacing, stud lining and applied lath and lime plaster render. The room is lit by a triple-light vertical sash window with two pane side panels and four pane central panels located centrally within the north wall. The reveals are splayed and recessed formerly housing folding leaf shutters (removed). The southern and western walls are Phase III stud partitions (0.10 x 0.10m at c.0.40m centres) with applied lath and plaster render. The studwork includes a number of reused timbers. The floor is boarded over the Phase II floor frame described in §.5.5.4.3 above.

#### Room FF09

5.5.4.14 Room FF09 is located to the western end of the north (phase II) range. It has overall dimensions of 3.15m (E/W) x 5.45m (N/S) and is accessed from corridor FF07 via a doorway on the southern end of the east wall. The northern and western walls represent Phase III exterior walls and are of brick construction with timber lacing, dry-lined with studwork supporting lath and plaster render. A small fireplace is located centrally to the west wall. The southern and eastern walls are of studwork construction ( $c.0.07 \times 0.08m$  at 0.4-0.45m centres), utilising a number of re-used elements, and support lathwork and lime plaster render. The room is lit by a single-light vertical sash window with 6-pane panels centrally located in the north wall. The floor is boarded over the Phase II frame described in §.5.5.4.3 – 4 above.

#### Room FF10

5.5.4.15 Room *FF10* is located to the south of the principal Phase II stack and forms a storage room, accessed from landing FF07 to the west. It has overall dimensions of 1.3m max.  $(N/S) \ge 3.00m$  (E/W). The lower section of the north wall constitutes the brickwork of the central stack and is in brick. Above this level, the wall is of studwork with applied lath and plaster. The void behind this studwork wall yielded a number of finds including a selection of 18th-century shoes and three 'mummified' cats; this deposit (known as a 'spiritual midden') is described in more detail in Appendix B below. The south wall of FF10 retains elements of the Phase II frame, including a full height, jowled storey post (Figures 32 and 33) on the line of the western limit of the central stack. The tie beam also survives though it has been truncated and the wall plate replaced by a substantial Phase III valley plate. The storey post and tie beam display an interesting series of carpenters assembly marks, known as '2ft marks' which would have been used as reference lines during the assembly of the frame. The eastern wall is partly framed with infill of brick and lath and plaster. The room is lit by a 'borrow-light' set into the south wall facing onto the stairwell.

#### Room FF11

5.5.4.16 Room *FF11* represents the eastern part of a formerly larger room formed in combination with room FF05 from which it is divided by an ephemeral 20<sup>th</sup>-century stud partition. It has overall dimensions of 3.65m (N/S) x 1.35m (E/W) and is accessed from FF05 via a narrow opening in the west wall and from FF04 via a doorway in the east wall. The southern wall represents a Phase III exterior wall and is of brick construction laid in single Flemish bond with plaster applied directly to the face of the brickwork.

#### Room FF12

- 5.5.4.17 Room *FF12* forms the upper floor of the Phase IV extension represented by GF07 at ground floor level. It has overall dimensions of 3.4m (N/S) x 6.35m (E/W). The pent roof slopes from north to south and comprises four principal rafters with one tier of butt purlins. The common rafters are in two sections tenoned and single pegged to the purlins. The eastern and western walls are of timber stud construction, resting upon the stone walls of the lower level; they are infilled with plyboard and were formerly tile hung to the exterior. The north wall is in painted brick, being the exterior face of the south wall of the main block. To the east of the central brick stack (serving GF02), a small winding stair of nine treads descends to room GF07. At the extreme east end of the north wall a further, secondary doorway gives access, via a 3 tread stair, to room FF04. The room is lit by a two light casement offset to the north of the east wall and by an inserted dormer offset to the west in the southern, sloping pent-roof.
  - 5.5.5 Eaves Level (Figures 20 and 21)

#### General

5.5.5.1 As with the first floor, the carpentry of the eaves level can be reasonably divided into two elements; the north range which essentially represents the 17<sup>th</sup>-century (Phase II) rebuild of the house, and the southern range representing the doubling of the floorplan in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Within the carpentry of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century eaves frame, a number of timbers have been identified which relate to a pre-existing roof; as such, they are discussed in detail in §.5.5.6.2 below.

#### The Phase II Attic Floor Frame

- 5.5.5.2 The northern wall plate of the extant farmhouse (J; Figure 20) represents a complete survival from the Phase II structure. It measures 0.18m x 0.14m in section and is in three sections, scarfed using face-halved joints with bladed abutments (see §.5.5.6.4 below).
- 5.5.5.3 To the west of the brick stack, a  $17^{\text{th}}$ -century frame survives, complete apart from its southern plate, which has been superceded by the phase III valley beam (K). A primary tie (D) is located immediately west of the stack and a further tie (C) at a distance of *c*.5m to the west. An east-west aligned secondary beam (B) runs centrally between these two ties, tenoned and double pegged to east and west. Beam B carries 11 unchamfered common joists each to north and south, jointed with shouldered soffit tenons and single pegged. To the west of C, the line of the spine beam is continued by beam A which carries a total of five common joists to north and south. Both

sections of the floor frame retain a consistent scheme of carpenter's numbering; to the north, common joists are numbered I-XVI from east to west while to the south, the numbering (again I-XVI) runs from west to east, in both cases the numbers being located adjacent to the spine beams A and B.

- 5.5.4 An intermediate beam (located between C and D) in two sections (E and F) provides additional support to the frame; to the south, F is jointed to the phase III valley beam indicating that E and F represent insertions contemporary with the southern extension of the farmhouse.
- 5.5.5.5 A series of short, Phase II joists span from beam D to Phase I plate G to the north and south of the brick stack.

#### The Phase III extension

- 5.5.5.7 The eaves level frame of the southern extension survives complete. A substantial valley beam (K), in two sections jointed using an face-halved scarf with bladed abutments, replaced the southern plate of the Phase II structure. The wall plate of the newly constructed southern wall (L) is again in two sections, scarfed in this case by an edge-halved joint with bladed abutments. A series of four regularly spaced ties (M-P), numbered I-IIII from east to west, span the southern extension. To the north, the ties are tenoned into the valley beam, double pegged and further secured by iron straps, nailed and pinned to the upper face of the tie and extending over the valley beam. To the south, the ties are dovetailed over the wall plate and are further secured by an iron strap let into the soffit of the tie and bolted to the exterior face of the plate (Figure 35). The ties are braced by a series of diagonal timbers, arranged in the form of a 'zig-zag'; a total of 14 east-west aligned joists of slight scantling span between ties and braces and are secured by unpegged central-tenons. The common joists directly support the lathwork for the first floor south range ceiling.
- 5.5.6 The Roof (Figures 20 23)

# The North Range Roof

5.5.6.1 The roof of the north range can be separated in to three distinct sections. At the eastern and western end of the range, hips represent late 18<sup>th</sup>-century modifications to the roof contemporary with the extension of the building to the south to form a two-storey building of approximately square plan. However, the central section of the roof, located to either side of the massive brick-built stack, and in particular the whole of the northern wall plate, represent survivals from an earlier, 17<sup>th</sup>-century roof structure. Within the carpentry of this 17<sup>th</sup>-century roof, three timbers have been identified which can reasonably be interpreted as the remains of a pre-17<sup>th</sup> century cross wing.

# *The pre 17<sup>th</sup>-century roof*

5.5.6.2 Evidence recorded within the eastern bay of the north range, now covered by a hip of late 18<sup>th</sup>-century date (Phase III), suggests the original existence of a gabled cross wing. All that survives from this gabled roof are the eastern and western wall plates, a single *in-situ* tie beam, and dovetail mortices for a further (missing) tie. The eastern wall plate (I; Figure 20 - retained as the main eastern plate of the 18<sup>th</sup>-century roof) has been cut back on the outer face at the time of its adaptation, but the remnants of original rafter sockets were clearly evident, as was a dovetail mortice in the upper

face, located 1.60m to the north of the surviving *in-situ* tie. The western wall plate (G, Figure 20) was located immediately east of the main stack, and here a complete set of rafter sockets and redundant dovetail mortice were recorded. The wallplates were linked by one *in-situ* tiebeam (H, Figure 20), located above a surviving length of framed wall at the southern side of room FF01, and lap dovetailed at each end. The absence of joints to the coherent 17<sup>th</sup>-century eaves level frame, in conjunction with the evidence of differing rafter socket details together suggest that these elements of the roof represent survivals from an earlier two-storey cross wing. The northern and southern extended beyond the surviving back of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century range. Evidence for the retention of the gabled wing within the 17<sup>th</sup>-century rebuild was recorded during the survey of the roof structure (see below).

### *The 17<sup>th</sup>-century roof*

- 5.5.6.3 A substantial section of a 17<sup>th</sup>-century roof survives within the central area of the north range, located to either side of the massive brick-built stack. The roof is a clasped-purlin roof of four bays, with timbers of small scantling. The principals, which are diminished above the level of the collar, are not aligned with the tie beams to form full trusses. At the western end of the north side of the roof, a trimmer survives, running between two common rafters below the level of the purlin, tenoned to the rafters, with chamfered soffits and mortices for braces. These mortices are matched by corresponding mortices in two of the common rafters. The common rafters and, indeed, two of the principals are tenoned into the topside of the trimmer with an original void beneath being infilled with secondary half-rafters nailed to the lower, outer face of the trimmer. A similar trimmer exists to the south side of the roof, behind the principal stack, running between one principal and a common rafter to the east. At the eastern end of the roof, which has been truncated to form the 18<sup>th</sup>century hip, both northern and southern purlins were noted to terminate with angled ends. The evidence of the trimmers and angled purlins, together with the evidence of the northern wall plate (see below), imply the original existence of two projecting gables to the north elevation.
- 5.5.6.4 The northern wall plate (J; Figure 20), which comprises three sections jointed with face halved scarfs with bladed abutments, represents a survival from the 17<sup>th</sup>-century structure. At the eastern end of the elevation, two sawn-off tenons (Figure 30) were recorded on the outer face of the plate suggesting the former existence of a projection at this point. Taken in conjunction with the evidence of the angled purlin terminals recorded within the roof, it is reasonable to reconstruct a 4.70m wide projecting gable at the eastern end of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century range. It is likely that this projecting gable represents the retention of the earlier cross wing (described above) within the 17<sup>th</sup>-century rebuild, the later roof being effectively built up against an earlier structure. To the west of the stack, corresponding with the location of the northern trimmer, a further former projection is suggested by the evidence of two primary tie-beams, the ends of which are cut flush with the outer face of the plate (as opposed to parallel with the roof line). An analysis of redundant peg holes in the outer face of the plate, combined with the ex-situ recording of the soffit, has allowed for a fairly confident reconstruction of the original first floor wall framing to be made (Figure 33).

#### Carpenter's Marks

5.5.6.5 The principal rafters of the roof structure display a coherent system of original numbering marks. The two principals located to each side of the northern gable trimmer are marked ( and (( with gauged marks to the collar and apex of the rafters, while the two surviving end principals are numbered II (west) and III (east) with short

chiselled marks. This numbering system implies a gable truss at the western limit of the building (Truss I); this supposition is supported by the numbering recorded on the eaves level framing (see §.5.5.5.3 above).

#### *The 18<sup>th</sup>century modifications*

5.5.6.6 The roof of the north range was again modified at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, contemporary with the doubling of the ground plan and the construction of the south range roof. These modifications comprised the removal of the gables to east and west and their replacement with hipped ends. A number of 17<sup>th</sup>-century joists were reused in the eastern hip, which was rebuilt with a plank section ridge board up to principal rafter III of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century structure, while the western hip (as far as principal II) appears to have been entirely in new softwood. The southern wall plate of the north range was removed and replaced by a substantial valley beam which supported both the rafters of the north range and those of the newly constructed south range (see below).

#### The South Range Roof

- 5.5.6.7 The roof of the south range represents a modification contemporary with the underbuilding of the main walls and extension of the building to an approximately square plan in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The roof comprises a total of 20 pairs of common rafters at *c*.0.36m (14") centres, with 6 pairs of principal rafters (as with the 17<sup>th</sup>-century roof of the north range, the principal rafters do not align with the ties to form full trusses) at 4 common rafter intervals. Principal rafters are of a plain A-frame form, common rafters being supported on a single tier of through-purlins clasped by the collars at each pair of principals. The roof is hipped at both ends.
- 5.5.6.8 The rafters are seated on a southern plate comprising two 7m (22'10") long sections jointed at the centre by a face-halved scarf with bladed abutments. To the north the rafters rest on a substantial valley plate, replacing the original southern plate of the north range roof. The southern and valley plates are tied by a total of four tiebeams (0.14m x 0.14m (5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>") scantling) double pegged to the valley and lap-dovetailed to the southern plate. Both the northern and southern joints display additional iron strap reinforcement details (Figure 35). The ties are braced by a series of diagonal timbers which carry a total of 14 east-west aligned joists of slight scantling which serve to support the lath and plaster ceiling of the south range ceilings.

#### Carpenters Marks

5.5.6.9 The southern rafters of the body of the roof (excluding the hips) carry a consistent pattern of carpenters numbering marks (I-XVI, east-west) chiselled on the outer face at the foot of the rafter. To the north, the rafters are numbered in pairs, adjacent rafters being numbered I-X (again east to west).

# 6 **DISCUSSION**

The phasing of the building presented here is based primarily upon the analysis of the structure during dismantling. Archaeological investigations have been disappointing in identifying evidence for the early phases of development, perhaps an inevitable result of the extensive programmes of rebuilding and adaptation of the structure over time.

# 6.1 **PHASE I**: a pre-17<sup>th</sup> century cross wing (Figures 24 and 25)

- 6.1.1 The earliest elements of the farmhouse identified during the study comprise a total of four timbers which have been interpreted as the fragmentary remains of a pre-17<sup>th</sup> century, north-south aligned, two-storey gabled cross wing located at the north-east corner of the building as recorded. From such limited evidence, it is difficult to reconstruct the form of the structure with any degree of certainty. The northern and southern extent of the wing remain unknown though it is reasonable to suggest that the original building extended further north than the north wall of the C18th/C19th rebuild and that it projected further to the south than the rear wall of the north range.
- 6.1.2 It is also reasonable to assume that the identified building does not represent a complete entity and that it was originally a part of a more extensive structure perhaps with an open hall and service rooms aligned at right angle to the 2-storey wing. No archaeological evidence was recorded for any further structures related to this phase.
- 6.2 **PHASE II**: the 17<sup>th</sup> century rebuild (Figure 26)
- 6.2.1 A detailed examination of the roof carpentry of the house has revealed extensive remains of a 17<sup>th</sup>-century structure, and the evidence indicates a building of significantly different plan to the footprint of the C18th/C19th-century wing. In addition, small areas of the southern wall framing survive within the north wall of the lateral corridor GF03, and in the cross frames to east and west of the principal brick stack.
- 6.2.2 The evidence
- 6.2.2.1 The northern wall plate of the building constitutes a complete survival from the 17<sup>th</sup>century building. At the eastern end of the plate, two sawn off tenons suggest the original existence of a projecting gable at this end of the building. A second projecting gable in the central section of the building was suggested by the evidence of tie-beams cut square with the outer face of the tie (as opposed to parallel to the roofline) and a butted trimmer below the level of the main purlin within the structure of the roof. The evidence of peg-holes and redundant mortices in the northern plate allows for a reconstruction of the first floor framing of the building (Figure 33).
- 6.2.2.2 Two first floor level floor frames (§.5.5.4.2) and first floor ceiling frame (§.5.5.2) survive within the C19<sup>th</sup>-rebuild around a massive, brick-built stack (with two fireplaces at each level). Jointing details indicate that these frames were contemporary with the stack and roof structure previously described.
- 6.2.2.3 A section of original framing including a full height wall post and sections of daub panelled walls survived in the north wall of the lateral corridor GF03, encased within later additions and alterations. The evidence of open mortices within the south face of the first floor girth suggest the original existence of a further south range (also implied by details of the roof carpentry) though the extent and nature of this range are nor clear. Sections of Phase II frame also survive within the cross walls associated with the principal stack. All further phase II framing would appear to have been

removed in phase III, during which phase of work the northern range was underbuilt in brick.

- 6.2.3 The implied structure
- 6.2.3.1 From the evidence of the roof carpentry, it is possible to reconstruct the northern elevation of the building with some degree of certainty (Figure 33). The plan of the main building corresponds with the northern range of the farmhouse as recorded with the exception of two projecting gables at the eastern end and the centre of the northern elevation. The depth of the projections remains unknown. It would appear reasonable to suggest that the eastern projecting gable in fact represents the retention of the Phase I cross wing (see §.6.1) within the new building. The consistent and complete system of original numbering of the eaves level joists to the west of the brick stack would appear to imply that a further truss formerly existed on the line of the western end of the extant building. This may suggest that the building was gabled to the west or perhaps that the structure extended in this direction in the form of further gabled cross wing mirroring that to the east (Figure 33). The latter arrangement would have presented a more symmetrical elevation to the north; however one might have expected to record evidence for such a gable in the western section of the surviving northern wall plate, perhaps in the form of the sawn-off tenons recorded to the east. The western extent of the structure thus remains problematical.<sup>4</sup> The excavation of an archaeological evaluation trench (trench 13) to the west of the extant building has, unfortunately, proved inconclusive in this respect.
- 6.2.3.2 The detailing of the primary fireplaces suggests an early 17<sup>th</sup>-century date for the primary structure. The quality of the chamfer detailing to floor beams and joists within the surviving framework would appear to suggest rooms of a domestic nature, probably ground floor hall and parlour with chambers over, though the scale of the fireplace within FF01 may suggest an original kitchen function. The presence of paired fireplaces at each level within the brick built stack, all apparently original, indicates a building of relatively high status (S Pearson, *pers. comm.*). It is likely that a building of this status would have been provided with additional service accommodation (either attached in the form of outshots or as detached structures). The presence of a series of four redundant mortices in the girth of the south wall of the surviving range at the level of the first floor (Figure 32) is clearly suggestive of additional, attached accommodation. Further, a watching brief on the breaking out of the basement rooms of the farmhouse (§7.3) has revealed the remains of a former cellar, probably related to the 17<sup>th</sup>-century rear wing.
- 6.2.3.3 An early 17<sup>th</sup>-century date is here proposed for the Phase II rebuild of the house. This dating is based upon the stylistic evidence of the joinery details of the surviving floor and roof frames and upon the details of the four contemporary fireplaces within the principal brick stack. All salvaged timbers of the Phase II frame were examined *exsitu* with a view to undertaking a programme of dendrochronological analysis, however no examples displayed a sufficient number of growth rings to make such a programme of work feasible.
- 6.3 **PHASE III**: 18<sup>th</sup>-century modifications and extension (Figure 34)
- 6.3.1 In the late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the farmhouse was again substantially remodelled, entailing the construction of an additional range to the south of the Phase

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Both arrangements are illustrated below; Figure 26 shows a gabled west end while Figure 33 illustrates a possible further western cross-wing.

II structure (GF02/03/04) and the underbuilding of the north range walls in brick thus producing a building of approximately square plan. An additional stack was raised in the eastern part of south wall serving a large fireplace at ground floor level only (GF02; probable new kitchen). The extensive survival of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century roof suggests that the roof structure of the Phase II house was simply shored up during this programme of work and the walls underbuilt in brick. The construction of the southern range was in brick in single Flemish bond.

- 6.1.3.2 The underbuilding of the northern, eastern and western walls of the northern (Phase II) range in brick resulted in the loss of much original (Phase II) wall framing, with the significant exception of the full northern wall plate.
- 6.1.3.3 Many of the extant internal partition walls can be assigned to this phase of work. All are of studwork construction with applied lath and lime plaster render.
- 6.1.3.3 Joinery details contemporary with this phase of work including the series of sash windows recorded throughout the main block (and in particular the sash shutters of GF05 and GF06) suggest an early 19<sup>th</sup>-century date for the extension of the building (English Heritage, 1993).

# 6.4 **PHASE IV**: (*mid 19<sup>th</sup> century*)

6.4.1 A lean-to, pent-roofed extension (GF07/FF12) representing an attached service room with accommodation over is located at the eastern end of the south wall and clearly abuts the brick built block at the east end of the south wall. That the offset stone plinth of the main block is continuous along the south wall would appear to indicate that this wall represented an external wall prior to the construction of the extension. The block is of rubble stone construction with brick plinth, quoins and window detailing. The use of identical materials for the construction of a small, detached ? stable block (GF13) suggests that it represents a contemporary addition. The similarity of materials also suggests that the northern part of outbuilding C may be of a similar date (though see below). Structure GF13 is clearly indicated in its present form at the southern end of the Farmhouse range on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map of c.1860 (Figure 1c). The evidence of the tithe award map of 1840 (Figure 1b) is a little more ambiguous, indicating a southern extension to the farmhouse (though possibly on a different plan to GF07/FF12) and also a possible structure to the west of the main block as recorded (not evidenced during the current programme of work). Further, it would appear that GF13 was not in existence at the time of the earlier map but that the northern section of outbuilding C was extant. To propose a detailed sequence of development from the evidence of a single, small scale tithe award map is not feasible. At most it may be used to draw broad conclusions, in combination with other sources, regarding the existence of structures and features; it would thus appear reasonable from the available evidence to suggest a general date of c.1840-60 for the construction of the pent-roofed extension (GF07/FF12), the detached structure (GF13) and the northern section of outbuilding C.

### 6.5 **PHASE V** (late 19<sup>th</sup> / early 20<sup>th</sup> century)

6.5.1 The construction of a small store (GF09) and larder (GF10) adjoining the south wall of Phase IV extension clearly represents a separate phase of work, evidenced by the use of distinct materials and the fact that it clearly abuts the earlier structure. The construction of these rooms was undertaken probably towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century or in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

# 6.6 **PHASE VI**: 20<sup>th</sup> century

6.6.1 At some point probably in the middle years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the access passage between the main farmhouse and the formerly detached block GF13 to the south was enclosed with a series of ephemeral stud partitions thus creating a covered connection between the main house and the former stables. This would seem to coincide with the conversion of GF13 to a domestic function, involving the infilling of the doors in the east wall to form windows and the construction of a stack in the south end of the west wall.

# 6.7 **PHASE VII**: *late 20<sup>th</sup> century*

6.7.1 The construction of the lean-to glass house or conservatory (GF14) to the extreme south end of range represents a modification of the later 20<sup>th</sup> century.

# 7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

## 7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 A series of thirteen archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated in and around the farmhouse building in March 1999, in advance of the demolition of the farmhouse. Trench locations are illustrated in Figure 36; specific aims and stratigraphic descriptions are given in §.7.2.2.
- 7.1.2 Following the completion of the demolition process, the building footprint of the farmhouse itself was investigated. Post demolition investigations were undertaken during July-August 1999. The aim of this excavation was to further investigate any surviving evidence for the layout of the pre-17<sup>th</sup>-century house as identified by the study of the standing structure during dismantling.

## 7.2 **Pre-Demolition Evaluation** (Project Code: **ARC BBF 99**)

- 7.2.1 Fieldwork Methodology
- 7.2.1.1 The trenches designed to investigate the farmhouse and barn (part of trench 1, trenches 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12 and 13) were excavated entirely by hand, due to the logistical constraints of working within standing structures. All other trenches were dug by mechanical excavator to the first identifiable archaeological horizon and thereafter excavation progressed by hand.
- 7.2.1.2 All trenches were cleaned by hand and exposed features were investigated to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds. All trenches were planned at an appropriate scale (1:50) and individual excavated sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. All features were photographed using colour slide and black and white negative film. No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified. Recording was in accordance with standard OAU procedures as set out in the OAU Field Manual (ed. Wilkinson D, 1992).
- 7.2.1.3 Fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with requirements set out in the CTRL *Archaeology Programme Written Scheme of Investigation* and the agreed methodology in the existing Project Method Statement (ref. S/400/SP/0008 p.481 & 483, part 5).
- 7.2.2 Trench Descriptions
- 7.2.2.1 Trench 1 (ARC 3699TT) Figure 37

Trench 1 was aligned approximately east-west and extended from the east wall of the farmhouse to the east wall of the barn on a similar alignment to trench 11 within room GF01 (see §.7.2.2.11). The trench was located with the specific aim of investigating the nature of any surviving yard surfaces between the farmhouse and the barn and to ascertain the potential for earlier floors and/or structures within the area of the barn itself. The trench was excavated following the dismantling of the barn for re-erection elsewhere.

Cut into the natural subsoil (121) were the foundation trenches (100, 119) for the barn walls (101, 118). The trenches were steep sided, 'U' shaped cuts, 100 was 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep, and 119 was 0.4m deep and 0.6m wide. The walls (101, 118) were constructed with unfrogged bricks, the front wall (101) being slightly wider than the rear (118) and had six courses remaining whilst the rear wall had five. Also cutting

into the natural, within the width of the barn, were two rectangular post pads of brick construction (112, 115) two courses deep, with a width of 0.22m and a length of 0.35m, comprising two adjacent lengthways bricks abutting the length of a single perpendicular brick. These pads formerly supported the aisle posts of the barn. A 0.30m deep, modern rubble spread, relating to the demolition of the barn (103) with inclusions of wood, masonry, straw and chalk blocks extended over the full extent of the interior.

Several deposits were revealed overlying the natural geology in the area between the east wall of the farmhouse and the front (west) wall of the barn. Adjacent to the farmhouse, the remains of a greenish yellow clay layer 0.44m deep (128) underlying a friable brown silty clay deposit (129) with a maximum depth of 0.5m were exposed. These were interpreted as make-up deposits related to an early yard surface. To the east a compact crushed chalk layer (130) was recorded, 0.12m deep, and further to the east, two cobbled surfaces (126, 127) were revealed. The earlier cobbled surface (127) was approximately 0.2m deep, and directly overlain by a secondary cobbled surface (126) of a similar depth. The small area of the surfaces exposed makes any interpretation uncertain, though it seems reasonable to interpret them as early yard surfaces with the compacted chalk layer 130 possibly representing an associated pathway. These deposits were sealed by a general rubble spread (125) with a maximum depth of 0.38m.

Overlying the natural to the west of the barn was a silty clay layer (110), approximately 0.3m deep, with inclusions of tile, chalk and flint. No features predating the dismantled barn structure were identified within the excavated trench.

## 7.2.2.2 Trench 2 (**ARC 3700TT**)

Trench 2 was located at the north end of the main body of the barn. It was aligned approximately north-south, measured 2.9m long x 1.2m wide and straddled the northern wall footings of the barn. The trench was located with the specific aim of investigating the potential for early floor surfaces and the relationship between the barn and the northern projecting extension.

Overlying the natural colluvial deposit (205) was a compacted layer of sandy silt and clay (202), mixed with decayed straw, with an average depth of 0.02m. At the north of the trench this deposit had been disturbed by a steep sided, flat bottomed cut (203), with a depth of 0.4m and width of 0.7m, filled by a mixture of pale orange silty clay, straw, fragments of wood, tile rubble and brick (204). Sealing the entire trench was the modern floor covering of the barn, a 0.1m deep, loose layer of straw and sandy loam (201).

Deposit 202 was interpreted as being an early floor surface for the barn. Feature 203 is believed to be of a modern date due to the nature of the fill (204).

## 7.2.2.3 Trench 3 (ARC 3701TT)

Trench 3 was located at the south end of the main body of the barn. It was aligned approximately north-south, measured  $3m \log x 1m$  wide and straddled the southern wall footings of the barn. The trench was located with the specific aim of investigating the nature of the barn footings and the potential for early floor surfaces.

The earliest deposit above the natural geology (307) was a loose layer (306) made from a mixture of crushed chalk and clay, approximately 0.1m deep. The extent of

this was not determined, but a similar context was excavated in trench 7 (702). Overlying this was a yellow sand deposit (305), 0.04m in thickness, with a large amount of brick and stone fragments and occasional chalk and clay inclusions. Above this was a compact concrete hardcore deposit, about 0.14m thick (304) serving as the make-up for a ?C20th tiled floor (301). The tiles were approximately 0.02m thick and bonded with sandy, yellow mortar Associated with 301 was a wall (300) aligned east - west, constructed from irregularly shaped sandstone and flint blocks with an average measurement of 0.15m x 0.06m, representing the footings of the south barn wall. Sealing this trench was a 0.36m deep layer of demolition debris (303), including modern fragments of brick, tile, metal pipes and twine, relating to the dismantling of the barn.

If deposit 306 is understood to be a floor layer, then the overlying deposit (305) may represent the destruction of the associated structure. Alternatively, 305 may have acted as an initial levelling deposit for 304, a substantial hardcore bedding surface for a tiled floor (301). This floor was substantially constructed and presumably relates to the series of former outbuildings which occupied the SE corner of the yard, shown on the 1860s OS First Edition map (Figure 1c) and evidenced by surviving features in the perimeter wall of the yard.

## 7.2.2.4 Trench 4 (**ARC 3702TT**)

Trench 4 was located so as to straddle the northern wall of the south-western projecting extension of the barn. It was aligned approximately north-south and measured  $3m \log x \ 1m$  wide.

Overlying the natural geology (412) was a thick compact chalk layer (recorded as 404 to the exterior of the barn and 410 to the interior) approximately 0.2m deep, similar to a deposit recorded in trench 5 (503). Cut into this deposit was the foundation trench (407) 0.3m deep and 0.48m wide, for the barn wall (405) and compacted chalk fill (406). Wall 405 was constructed from roughly worked limestone blocks of varying sizes, bonded with yellow mortar and occasional chalk inclusions and had a width of about 0.3m and a depth of 0.6m. A layer of loose orange sand (409) which was 0.24m deep, acted as a bedding layer for an internal chalk floor (408) 0.16m deep. To the exterior of the barn, an early soil horizon (403) was cut (402) to a depth of 0.1m for a compact clay surface (401), about 0.1m deep with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments. A spread 0.2m deep of modern material (400), including demolition debris, covered the exterior of the barn.

The thick chalk deposit (410) was interpreted as a yard surface whilst 401 may be the remains of a further cobbled surface.

## 7.2.2.5 Trench 5 (ARC 3703TT)

Trench 5 was located to straddle the southern wall of the north-western projecting extension of the barn. It was aligned approximately north-south and measured 4.5m long x 1m wide.

The earliest deposit overlying the natural geology (505) was a sand levelling layer (504) with a thickness of 0.14m, for a compact chalk surface (503) measuring 0.1m in depth and similar in nature to deposit 404 in trench 4. The brick built footings for the barn extension was constructed directly onto the chalk deposit; the wall located within trench 5 was recorded as context 506. Abutting 506 and overlying 503 was a

levelling or make up layer (502) around 0.15m deep, for a compact chalk surface (501) which had a maximum depth of 0.09m, contemporary with the last use of the barn.

Above the latest floor surface, a partition wall was built (507) on a north - south alignment, related to the dismantled building, of which a single course of brick remained. A general layer of debris from the demolition of the barn (500) sealed the trench.

# 7.2.2.6 Trench 6 (ARC 3704TT)

Trench 6 was located hard against the southern gable wall of outbuilding B.

Bedded upon the natural geology (602) were the footings (604) of limestone and flint construction, exposed to a height of 0.50m, for the construction of the southern brick wall (603) of the extant building. The rough flint and brick footings were not faced save the top course of limestone blocks which was faced to the south. Abutting this and covering the trench was a 0.14m deep silty clay subsoil (601), underlying a rich garden soil (600) that again sealed the entire trench with a depth of 0.13m.

## 7.2.2.7 Trench 7 (ARC 3705TT)

Trench 7 was located within and to the east of the collapsed outbuilding A. It measured 30m long x 1.5m wide and was aligned approximately NW-SE. The trench was located with the specific aim of investigating the footprint of building A, the yard to the east and the possible location of a former pond indicated on the Charing Tithe Award map (Figure 1b).

Cutting into the natural geology (717, 718) was a steep sided posthole (716), 0.45m in diameter and filled (715) by large packing stones and silty clay to a depth of 0.5m. Also cutting the natural clay was the foundation cut (708) for the south east wall (710) of the stable. The cut was approximately 0.4m deep and filled by a deposit of brown silty clay (709). The wall was constructed using roughly worked limestone blocks that survived to a height of 0.8m. Abutting this wall was an early internal floor layer (714) 0.1m deep, of clay with inclusions of tile and brick. Above this was a thin deposit of fine yellow sand (713), bedding for the latest floor of blue/grey engineering bricks (712).

Overlying the natural outside the stable was the remains of the primary yard surface (704), a layer of pebbles and cobbles with an average depth of 0.3m. This was later covered by a dark brown silty loam (703) about 0.12m thick, upon which a crushed chalk yard surface (702) had been laid. This surface extended for approximately 8m from the south-east end of the trench with a depth of 0.2m. Sealing this deposit was a modern topsoil layer (701) which was partially overlain by a tarmac trackway (705).

The posthole (716) is suggestive of an earlier timber structure, though to extrapolate from the evidence of a single post hole is not feasible. No evidence for the former pond was recorded.

## 7.2.2.8 Trench 8 (ARC 3706TT)

Trench 8 was located immediately east of outbuilding C. It measured 15m long x 1.5m wide and was aligned approximately east-west. The trench was located with the

specific aim of investigating the footings of outbuilding C, the yard to the east and the nature of the former buildings in the south-east corner of the farmyard.

Overlying the natural geology (805) was a make up layer of flint 0.08m deep, bedded in natural clay (804) for the pigsty wall (802). The pigsty wall was constructed in brick over foundations of mortared sandstone blocks bedded onto a layer of flints. At some stage a low level opening into the pigsty had been blocked using bricks and sandstone blocks bonded by mortar with clay inclusions (803). A chalk layer (801), around 0.1m deep, similar to deposits 410 and 503 recorded in trenches 4 and 5 possibly represents a former yard surface. Overlying this was a mixed deposit of topsoil with modern brick and tile inclusions (800). A land drain on an SE-NW alignment was dug into the natural at the eastern limit of the trench. No evidence for former farm buildings was recorded.

## 7.2.2.9 Trench 9 (ARC 3707TT)

Trench 9 was located c.15m south of the farmhouse. It measured 10m long x 1.5m wide and was aligned NE-SW, parallel to the southern enclosing wall of the farmyard. The trench was located with the specific aim of investigating the nature of the open area to the south of the main farm buildings.

Cut into the natural geology (903) was a shallow scoop (905) 0.7m in diameter, filled by silty clay with flint and chalk inclusions (904) to an average depth of 0.1m. Sealing the entire trench was a layer of subsoil (902) 0.2m deep and top soil (901) with an average depth of 0.1m.

## 7.2.2.10Trench 10 (ARC 3708TT)

Trench 10 was located to the south-west of the main northern block of the farmhouse, immediately west of the series of southern extensions. It was 12m long and was aligned approximately north-south.

The investigations in this trench revealed three features concentrated to the north of the trench, all cutting into the natural geology (1007). Partially exposed in the east of the trench was a shallow cut of a semi-circular feature (1002), measuring 0.7m in length and 0.3m maximum depth. The width of the feature was not fully exposed. This was filled by a silty clay with flint inclusions (1003). Adjacent to this was a shallow "u"-shaped cut of a linear feature (1000) on an east - west alignment. This feature had a maximum width of 0.6m and a maximum depth of 0.16m, the west end of this feature was not exposed and so the full length was not ascertained. The feature had been filled with silty clay deposit with flint inclusions (1001), similar to 1003. Located to the south of these features was a steep sided cut for a posthole (1004), measuring approximately 0.3m in diameter with a depth of 0.25m. This was filled (1005) by a silty clay with inclusions of flint, chalk and subangular limestone blocks. The entire trench was sealed by a layer of subsoil (1006).

## 7.2.2.11Trench 11 (ARC 3709TT) Figure 37

Trench 11 was located within the farmhouse building (Room GF01). It was 5.1m long x 1m wide and was aligned approximately east-west, running from the brick stack to the west as far as the internal face of the eastern wall of the farmhouse (continuing the line of trench 1 externally). It was located with the specific aim of investigating the potential for former floor surfaces within the earliest part of the extant structure.

Overlying the natural geology (1107) were several layers of redeposited natural (1111, 1112, 1113), perhaps used to level the ground surface. Overlying this was a 0.02m thick compacted clay surface (1108) and a levelling layer comprised of a gravel mix (1106), perhaps deposited when the brick plinths (1110) used to support the most recent timber floor were built. An additional gravel levelling layer (1105) was deposited in preparation for the insertion of the fireplace. A thin concrete layer (1104) was used to bed the fireplace tiles (1103) whilst the base of the fireplace was formed of a single course of unfrogged brick (1109). Within the trench, three timber beam supports (1102) were found to be resting on brick plinths. An additional row of timbers (1101) were found to be at right angles to 1102. The latest floor was represented by timber floorboards (1100).

The compacted clay surface (1108) may perhaps be indicative of an early floor surface.

## 7.2.2.12Trench 12 (**ARC 3710TT**)

Trench 12 was again located within the farmhouse building (Room GF02). It was 2.1m long x 1m wide and was aligned approximately north-south. It was located with the specific aim of investigating the potential for early floor surfaces within the farmhouse.

Above the natural geology (1206) and redeposited natural (1205) was a thin layer of ash (1204), suggestive of occupation debris. Two further layers (1203, 1202) of occupation build up were recorded, comprising of compacted sand, upon which a sand bedding deposit (1201) for a brick floor (1200) was laid. The floor, made from unfrogged bricks sealed a trench cut for a ceramic pipe.

## 7.2.2.13Trench 13 (ARC 3711TT)

Trench 13 was located immediately to the west of the main block of the farmhouse building. It was  $17.5m \log x 1.5m$  wide and was aligned approximately north-south. The trench was located with the specific aim of investigating the potential for evidence relating to the possible western continuation of the farmhouse, implied by the results of the building survey.

Overlying the natural geology (1303) was a subsoil layer (1302) about 0.2m deep with inclusions of chalk, flint, brick, tile and glass. The overlying topsoil layer (501) was about 0.1m deep and also contained modern debris. No evidence was recorded to confirm the western continuation of the farmhouse.

## 7.3 **Post-Demolition Investigations** (Figure 38)

- 7.3.1 Following the removal of the standing building from the site, a watching brief was maintained on groundworks including the breaking out of the basement rooms. During this watching brief, the remains of an additional former basement room were recorded beneath room GF02.
- 7.3.2 The earliest surviving structural remains consisted of a 'U' shaped wall (1039) found at a depth of 1.8 m beneath the former floor levels. The wall consisted of roughly laid unworked ragstone pieces bonded by a orange-brown silty clay. The northern side of the wall was the most complete and respected the northern wall of room GF02 above. It survived for a length of 4.50m and measured 0.75m wide by up to 0.40m high. The

wall returned southwards to the east and west in two short runs which measured 4.40m and 4.60m long respectively.

- 7.3.3 Wall 1039 aligned with the eastern side of the mass footing for the GF02 stack, which also extended to a depth of approximately 2m beneath the level of the ground floor. However, it is unlikely that the structures are related (see §.7.3.6).
- 7.3.4 A small square area of brick steps (1047) abutted and partially overlay wall 1039 within the north-east corner of the structure. The steps were of red brick construction, measuring 0.22m x 0.1m x 0.05m , forming a single step up. The brickwork did not appear to be bonded but overlay a thin spread of yellowish white mortar which partially extended beyond the exposed brickwork. No flooring relating to either wall 1039 or the brick steps 1047 was apparent. Both contexts overlay a orange loamy sand which is probably the undisturbed natural.
- 7.3.5 On the western side of the basement, two irregular areas of stone, brick and tile debris (1045 and 1046) represent probable destruction debris, probably associated with the destruction of the lower basement and its subsequent back-filling. Above this level the basement was back-filled by deposits of silty sands (1043 and 1038) which respectively contained thin bandings of powdery white mortar and mixed building destruction debris. These were in turn sealed by a thick deposit of orange brown sandy loam, 1042, which contained occasional unworked flint. This latter deposit is probably a re-deposited natural.
- 7.3.6 The circumstances of recording make interpretation of these remains problematical. The vertical separation of some 1.80m between the exposed footings and the dismantled farmhouse make a Phase III date (or later) unfeasible. Likewise the misalignment of the rectangular structure implied by wall 1039 with the implied Phase I cross wing makes their contemporaenity unlikely. As has been noted above (§.6.2.3.2), the Phase II timber framed structure was clearly furnished with an additional southern range of unknown extent. It would thus appear most likely that the exposed footings relate to a cellar associated with this rear wing of the 17<sup>th</sup> century structure. The cellar was in all likelihood partially robbed out and backfilled at the time of the Phase III extension of the farmhouse and the construction of the southern stack of GF02.

# 7.4 Discussion

The results of the archaeological evaluation trenching has been disappointing and 7.4.1 those trenches located to investigate the structure and development of the farmhouse (trenches 1, 11, 12 and 13) have added little to the understanding gleaned from the survey of the structure itself. This is no doubt due to the fact that previous phases of rebuilding (in particular the Phase III underbuilding of the north range and associated foundation works for the south range) have involved substantial programmes of groundwork resulting in the disturbance of the surrounding area and the loss of any subsurface remains related to the earlier phases of the building's history. The ephemeral nature of traces left by timber framed structures is also a contributory factor. The trenches within the yard have exposed a series of superimposed surfaces which, while of interest, is to be expected of a yard in use over an extended period of time. The nature of farmyard use and the fact that evaluation took place after the demolition of several of the structures can also be seen to represent contributory factors in the disturbed nature of the deposits encountered. The watching brief on groundworks has produced interesting results in the discovery of a former cellar, probably related to the 17<sup>th</sup>-century house, and the isolated find of a timber cutting shoe associated with the brick lined well to the east of the house (Appendix C). The

circumstances of such watching briefs is seldom ideal for archaeological recording and the results are less clearly defined than those from survey of the standing structure. The exercise was worthwhile however, and it should be noted that the cellar exposed beneath GF02 would most probably not have been identified by more traditional trenching methods due to the fact that it had been infilled with redeposited natural.

# 8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The programme of building recording undertaken during the demolition process can be seen to have added significantly to our understanding of the development of the farmhouse. While the extensive survival of 17<sup>th</sup>-century floor frames and roof was not entirely unexpected, the details recorded during dismantling have allowed for a significantly different interpretation of the form of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century house than was previously understood. In addition, the identification of a pre-17th-century building, albeit represented by only five *in-situ* timbers, is of particular interest.
- 8.2 Detailed recording of individual timbers as they became exposed during work, and the *ex-situ* recording of specific timbers, has allowed for a substantial amount of detail to be added to the base survey. The retention of all phase II timbers by the Weald and Downland Museum will provide the opportunity for further detailed study of those elements, beyond the scope of the current recording exercise, in the future, which may serve to further enhance and refine our understanding of the form of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century building.
- 8.3 The 'spiritual midden' from the wall void within FF01 represents a find of intrinsic interest and, while far from unique, represents a significant addition to an often overlooked social dimension of a building's history.
- 8.4 The results of archaeological evaluation of the site before and after dismantling have proved to be disappointing. In the case of the farmhouse itself, this is the inevitable result of the periodical refurbishment and modification of the structure the underbuilding of the north range walls in brick, the creation of the basement to the Phase III house and the laying of new floors internally which have served to remove archaeological traces of earlier arrangements.

Oxford Archaeological Unit April 2001



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Pearson S	1999	Unpublished notes following site visit to Brockton Farm
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## **Appendix A: Copy of DoE List Entries**

(a)	Farmhouse	
1. 5272		CHARING

EGERTON ROAD Charing Heath

Brockton

TQ 94 NW 10/70

II

2.

C17 or earlier timber framed building refronted in C18. Two storeys painted brick. Hipped tiled roof with massive brick chimney stack. Two sashes with glazing bars intact.

## (b) Barn

1. 5272

CHARING

EGERTON ROAD Charing Heath

Weatherboarded barn to east of Brockton

TQ 94 NW 10/70A

Π

2.

C18 or earlier aisled timber barn. Weatherboarded. Steeply-pitched thatched roof.

# Appendix B: The 'Spiritual Midden' from Room FF01

Within the void behind the stud wall to the south-east of the principal stack at first floor level (Room FF01), a deposit of organic material was encountered from which a number of finds were recovered. These finds are presented in the table below:

Sample Number	Description	Material	Sample Number	Description	Material
1	Bottle Neck	Glass	19	Boot heel	Leather
2	Bottle Base	Glass	20	?Chair leg	Wood
3	Window Glass	Glass + lead	21	Glove (part)	Leather
4	Window Glass	Glass + lead	22	Strap	Leather
5	Window Glass x 5 frags	Glass	23	Oyster shell (x7)	
6	Clay Pipe	Fired clay	24	Architectural fragments	Wood
7	Turned wooden object	Wood	25	Horn	
8	?Spinning top	Wood + Fe	26	Twisted Cord	
9	?Tuning key	Wood	27	Pin	Worked wood
10	Glove	Leather	28	Bottle Base	Glass
11	?Corset	Textile	29	Glove	Leather
12	Strap with fittings (x 2)	Leather	30	Strap	Leather
13	Misc. leather (x 1 bag)	Leather	31	Oyster shell (x14)	
14	Shoe	Leather	32	Garment (?Jerkin)	Textile
15	Shoe	Leather	33	'Mummified' Cat	
16	Shoe	Leather	34	'Mummified' Cat	
17	Shoe	Leather	35	'Mummified' Cat	
18	Shoe	Leather			

Table C.1: Finds from 'Spiritual Midden' deposit

The objects were presumably deposited from within the roofspace where the void was accessible to the south of the stack.

The placement of selected objects and/or animal remains (esp. mummified cats) in certain



**Above**: Void adjacent to brick stack where the 'spiritual midden' was discovered, as seen from room FF05.

concealed parts of buildings, particularly around openings to houses (doors/ windows/chimney stacks) is known throughout Europe from late prehistoric times and was particularly common during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries (Easton 1995). Objects commonly encountered include articles of clothing (shoes in particular), household equipment, pieces of furniture and other articles reflecting the everyday life of a household. The function of such deposits, known as 'spiritual middens', has been discussed at some length (Merrifield 1987, 128-136) and is believed to be of a symbolic nature, probably a deterrent against malevolent spirits entering the building.

The selection of objects recovered from the wall void at Brockton would appear to represent a fairly standard assemblage for such 'spiritual midden' deposits. Spot dating of the shoes and other clothing items indicate an early –mid 18<sup>th</sup> -century date for the major part of this deposit. The poor condition of many of the items precludes more precise dating.



Above: Selection of early 18<sup>th</sup>-century shoes and leather glove from 'spiritual midden' deposit (15cm scale).



Above: three 'mummified' cats from spiritual midden deposit (15cm scale).

## Appendix C: Cutting Shoe retrieved from Well

During landscaping, a watching brief was maintained on the removal of a brick lines circular well, located 4.30m to the east of Brockton farmhouse. The well was *c*.9m deep, circular in plan and of brick construction. Towards its lower levels, the well was cut into natural limestone. A circular timber object was retrieved during machining of the lower levels of the well which, from its form and provenance, has been interpreted as a wooden cutting shoe associated with the digging of the well. The timbers had been preserved in the waterlogged conditions at the base of the brick-lined well and would have had to be abandoned in place when the construction was completed.

In its original, complete form the object would have comprised a total of four curved, quadrant sections of triangular profile with an external diameter of approximately 1.15m. These sections would have been further strengthened by a series of four off-set plank sections applied to their upper face.

## Description

Three of the main quadrant sections, or felloes, and three of the curved planks were retrieved, allowing for a confident reconstruction of the whole. The felloes were cut from the heartwood of an oak with only a little of their sapwood remaining. Together they comprise three-quarters of an original timber ring with an internal diameter of 0.92m and an external diameter of 1.15m. The width of the upper face of each section was 0.10m, tapering out to the exterior face where the maximum depth was again 0.10m. They are jointed by free-tenons of elm single pegged to each felloe. Measuring 780 x 102 x 100mm, the main timbers are triangular in section and have been sawn and cut from the heartwood of an oak with only a little of their sapwood remaining.

Three (of an original four) curved, plank section timbers (0.10 x 0.025m scantling) were retrieved. In their original arrangement, the planks were applied to the upper face of the felloes, turned through  $45^{\circ}$  relative to the lower timbers and secured by three iron nails per section (evidence for nail fixings were recorded). The upper face of the plank sections retained traces of brick and mortar indicating their primary orientation.

## Assembly marks

The upper plank sections of the structure were uniquely identified by paired numbers at each end which corresponded to the adjacent timbers in their original arrangement. Thus the individual sections were numbered I-II, II-III, III-III, III-II.

Each section of the lower ring structure was marked centrally on its upper face with a setting out line corresponding to the joints in the upper plank sections. Adjacent to the central setting out lines, the outer face of the sections were marked I, II, III, and IIII respectively, corresponding to the overlying plank sections.

## Interpretation

The form and provenance of the timber structure suggest an original function associated with the well structure from which it was retrieved. The solid construction and tapered profile of the lower section are clearly of relevance to its primary function. It would appear reasonable from the available evidence to suggest an original function as a cutting shoe for the brick shaft which would have functioned somewhat in the form of a caisson, a technique familiar from bridge pier construction. The shaft of the well would have been progressively built up from the shoe, excavation of the well being undertaken from within. The progressive 'undermining' of the timber shoe would allow the sinking of the well, under pressure of the overlying brickwork, to the level of the water table. Upon completion of the well, the shoe was left *in-situ*.

Sample	Description	Provenance
1	Wall plate (east) x 1	pre-17th-century roof
2	Wall plate (east of stack) x 1	pre-17th-century roof
3	Tie beam x1	pre-17th-century roof
4	Common Joists x 24 total	17th-century roof: north range
5	Principal Joists x 8 total	17th-century roof: north range
6	Collar x 4 total	17th-century roof: north range
7	Clasped through-purlin (north side): 3 sections	17th-century roof: north range
8	Clasped through-purlin (north side): 3 sections	17th-century roof: north range
9	Gable trimmer (north side) x 1	17th-century roof: north range
10	Gable trimmer (south side) x 1	
10	Wall plate (north): 3 sections	17th-century roof: north range 17th-century roof: north range
12	Main spine beam x 1	17th-century eaves level frame
13	Short spine beam x 1	17th-century eaves level frame
14	Tie beam from west room x 1	17th-century eaves level frame
15	Tie beam immediately west of stack x 1	17th-century eaves level frame
16	Joists from west room x 22 total	17th-century eaves level frame
17	Joists from extreme west end x 10 total	17th-century eaves level frame
18	Joists from around principal stack x 9 total	17th-century eaves level frame
19	Inserted tie from west room (x 2 sections)	?18th-century insertion
20	Main beams x X total	17th-century first floor frame
21	Joists from west room x X total	17th-century first floor frame
22	Joists from east room x X total	17th-century first floor frame
23	Main full height storey post x1	17th-century southern wall frame
24	First floor girth (x 3 sections)	17th-century southern wall frame
25	Mid rail x 1	17th-century southern wall frame
26	Sill beam x 1	17th-century southern wall frame
28	Fireplace mantel beam	Room GF01 (17th-century stack)
29	Fireplace mantel beam	Room GF05 (17th-century stack)
30	Fireplace mantel beam	Room FF01 (17th-century stack)
31	Fireplace mantel beam	Room FF08 (17th-century stack)
32	Misc. structural iron work from late C18th rebuild	South range roof
33		Room GF13
33	Rounded brick from door jamb (x2) Brick from rebuild of upper courses of principal stack (x2)	
-		Main stack
35	Brick from main walls of late C18th/early C19th rebuild (x2)	North wall
36	Bricks from rebuild of fireplace FF01(x2)	Room FF01
37	Brick quoins (x2)	Room GF12
38	Brick paving from GF02 (x2)	Room GF02
39	Brick from lean-to extension GF07/FF12 (x2)	Room GF07/FF12
40	Brick from GF10 (x2)	Room GF10
41	Roof tiles (x3)	S range roofspace
42	Tile hanging from lean-to extension (x2)	Room FF12
43	Peg tiles built into primary principal stack (pegs in-situ) (x2)	17th-century stack
44	Peg tiles built into primary principal stack (x1)	17th-century stack
45	Peg tiles built into primary stack (Frags. x5)	17th-century stack
46	Dislodged section of primary fireback (FF01)	17th-century stack
47	Brick infill from rebuild of fireplace (FF01) (x2)	17th-century stack
48	Moulded brick fragment (x1)	
49	Brick from rebuild of fireplace FF01(x2)	17th-century stack
50	Unprovenanced ridge tile (x1)	S range roofspace
51	Sample of daub panel infill material (x1 bag)	Room GF03 north wall
52		Room FF01
	Mortar sample from fireplace FF01 (x1)	
53	Centre pegs from N range plate scarfs (x4)	N range, north wall plate
54	Square section pegs (x6)	S range roof
Sample	Description	Provenance
55	Octagonal section pegs (x4)	S range roof
56	Miscellaneous pegs (x1 bag)	N and S range roof
57	Nails from early C19th dry lining (x 1 bag)	Room FF01

Appendix D: Register of samples retained by Weald and Downland Museum.



58	Nails from early C19th studwork (x1 bag)	Room FF01
59	Plaster sample from fireplace (primary) (x1 bag)	Room FF08
60	laths from early C19th dry lining (x1 bag)	
61	laths from secondary internal partition (x1 bag)	
62	Sample of primary ceiling plaster with laths attached	Room FF08
63	Sample of primary ceiling plaster	Room FF08
64	Section of sawn off primary storey post (south elevation) (x1)	Room GF03 north wall
65	Section of primary ceiling plaster	Room FF08
66	Section of primary daub panel wall (studs/laths/daub/plaster)	Room FF01, south wall
67	Rubbed brick window head	Room GF02, east window
68	Brick from primary stack (x6 pallettes = c.2000 - 2500 total)	17th-century stack
69	Solid tread stair from lean-to extension	Room GF07/FF12
70	Newel post from same (2 sections)	Room GF07/FF12



Sample	Description	Provenance
1	Late 18th-century iron framed opening casement window	Room GF02, east elevation
2	Fanlight from above main door	Room GF02, east door
3	Bipartite 'Stable' type door	Room GF07, east elevation
4	Opening light of iron casement window	Room FF12, east elevation
5	1920's steel casement window with art-deco decoration	Room GF07, east end of south elevation
6	Section of box frame from sash window	Room FF08, north elevation
7	Shutters and pulley wheels from sash window	Room GF05, north elevation
8	1820's 4-panel door	Room FF01
9	Box frame and vertical sash shutters	Room GF06, north elevation
10	Box frame and folding leaf shutters	Room FF09, north elevation
11	Sash window	Room FF06, west elevation
12	Sash pulley wheels and fastenings	Room GF04, south elevation
13	Sash pulley wheels and fastenings	Room FF06, south elevation
14	Late 18th-century iron basket grate	Room GF13, south-west corner
15	Cut down 18th-century sash re-used as borrow-light window	Room FF03, north elevation
16	4-tread section of main stair with paneling and bannister	Room GF03
17	Section of main rear door case and architrave	Room GF03, west elevation

Appendix E: Register of samples r	retained by Charles Brooking C	Collection
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## Appendix F: Guide to the Project Archive

This appendix is designed to provide an ordered structure to the archive. The full archive is to be deposited with Centre for Kentish Studies, Maidstone, Kent.

## **GENERAL INDEX TO THE ARCHIVE**

The archive comprises of the following categories of information:

•	Introduction documents:	Specifications and methods statements.
•	Reports:	Reports including historical research, archaeological evaluation and excavation and building analysis.
•	Drawings:	Measured drawings.
•	Photographic record	Photographic record produced during the project.
•	Archaeological archive	Context sheets, trench plans and section drawings, photographic record of trenches, recovered finds.

# **INTRODUCTION DOCUMENTS**

OAU	March 1995	Report on Historic Buildings, Feasibility Studies. Unpublished client report.
OAU	June 1999	Demolition of Brockton Farm, Charing Heath, Ashford, Kent: Method Statement for Demolition.

## REPORTS

OAU	Dec 1998	Brockton Farm, Charing, Kent: Archaeological Evaluation Report. Unpublished client report.
Watts and Partners	Nov 1994	Report on Brockton Barn, Charing Heath. Unpublished client report for URL.

S S

# CATALOGUE OF DRAWINGS

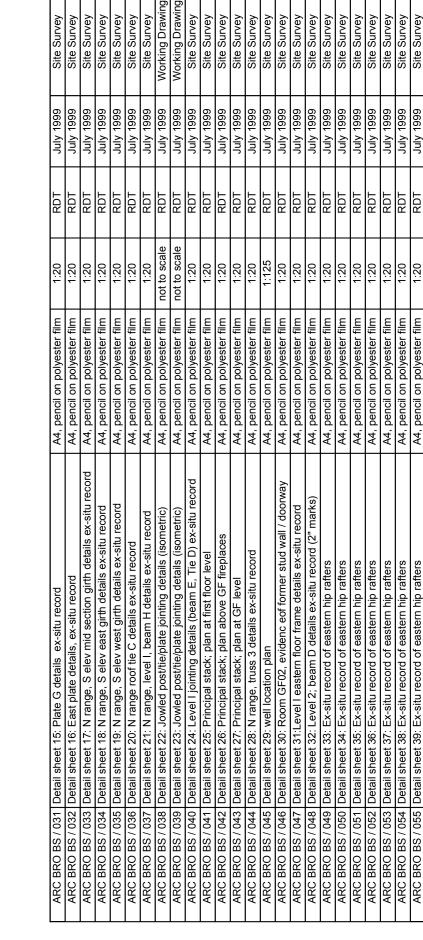
Drawings prepared by OAU:

DRAWING NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	SCALE	AUTHOR	DATE	DRAWING STATUS
ARC BRO BS / 001 F	Farmhouse: Ground Floor Plan	Digital (AutoCAD)	1:1	МХ	Feb.1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 002	ARC BRO BS / 002 Farmhouse: First Floor Plan	Digital (AutoCAD)	1:1	κw	Feb.1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 003 (	Outbuilding details	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20/1:50	RDT	19.ii.99	Site Survey
BRO BS / 004	Longitudinal cross section (1 of 2)	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	Feb.1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 005	ARC BRO BS / 005 Longitudinal cross section (2 of 2)	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	Feb.1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 006	ARC BRO BS / 006 Transverse cross section	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	Feb.1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 007	Roof plan: north and south ranges	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	24.vi.99	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 008 North range roof plan	North range roof plan	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	30.vi.99	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 009	ARC BRO BS / 009 South range roof plan	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	28.vi.99	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 010	ARC BRO BS / 010 Roof sections (north and south range)	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	26.vi.99	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 011 1	North range: eaves level plan	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	29.vi.99	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 012	ARC BRO BS / 012 North range: plate details and implied wall framing	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	July 1999	Working Drawing
ARC BRO BS / 013	ARC BRO BS / 013 North range: first floor plan	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	2.vii.99	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 014	ARC BRO BS / 014 North range : south elevation	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 015 1	North range: south elevation; implied original framing	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	July 1999	Working Drawing
ARC BRO BS / 016	ARC BRO BS / 016 North range: reconstructed transverse cross section	A1, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	July 1999	Working Drawing
ARC BRO BS / 017	ARC BRO BS / 017 Detail sheet 1: South range eaves jointing and ironwork details	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 018	ARC BRO BS / 018 Detail sheet 2: south range plate; scarf detail	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 019 [	Detail sheet 3: north range roof, tie and storey post detail	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 020	ARC BRO BS / 020 Detail sheet 4: north range roof detail of trimmer location	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 021	ARC BRO BS / 021 Detail sheet 5: detail of brick bonding FF05/FF06	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
BRO BS / 022	ARC BRO BS / 022 Detail sheet 6: Principal stack; plan at apex	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 023 [	Detail sheet 7: Principal stack; plan at ridge	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 024	ARC BRO BS / 024 Detail sheet 8: Principal stack; plan at eaves level	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 025	ARC BRO BS / 025 Detail sheet 9: N range east end, eave detail	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 026	ARC BRO BS / 026 Detail sheet 10: N range eaves level framing details	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 027 [	Detail sheet 11: N range, north plate scarf detail	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:10	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 028	ARC BRO BS / 028 Detail sheet 12: detail of jowled post and assoc. framing	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
ARC BRO BS / 029	ARC BRO BS / 029 Detail sheet 13: Tie H, ex-situ record	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey
DRAWING NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	SCALE	AUTHOR	DATE	DRAWING STATUS
ARC BRO BS / 030 [	Detail sheet 14: Plate G and eastern plate details ex-situ record	A4, pencil on polyester film	1:20	RDT	July 1999	Site Survey

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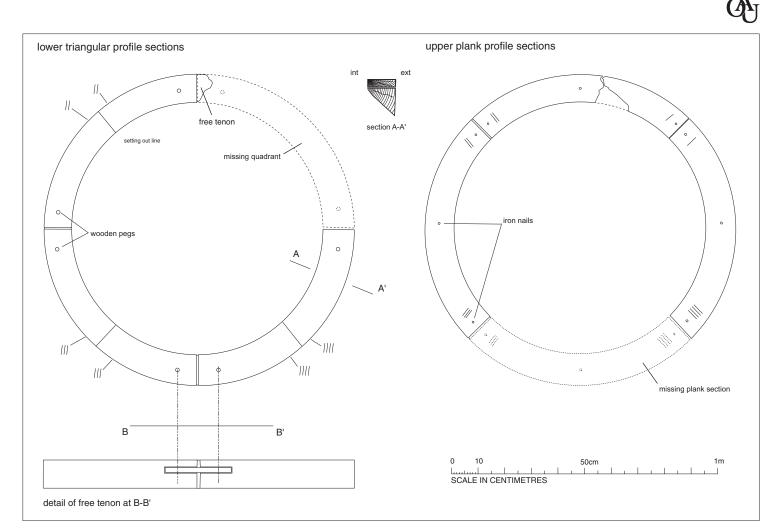
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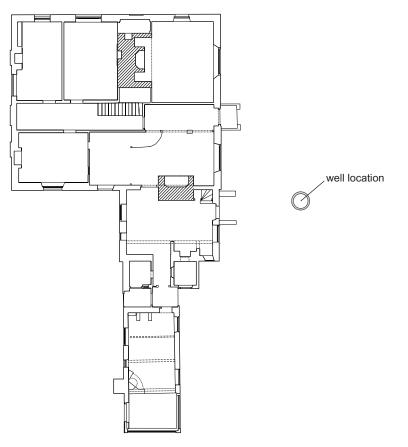
Brockton Farm, Charing Heath, Kent: Archaeological Record in advance of and during Dismantling



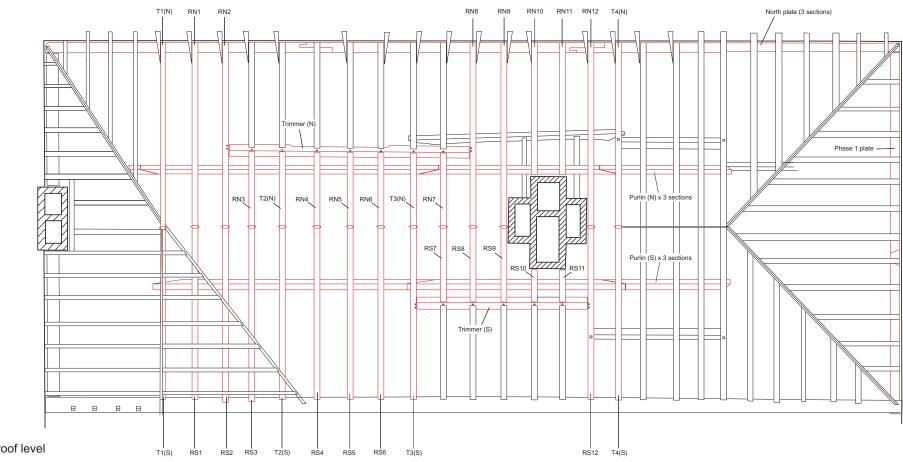
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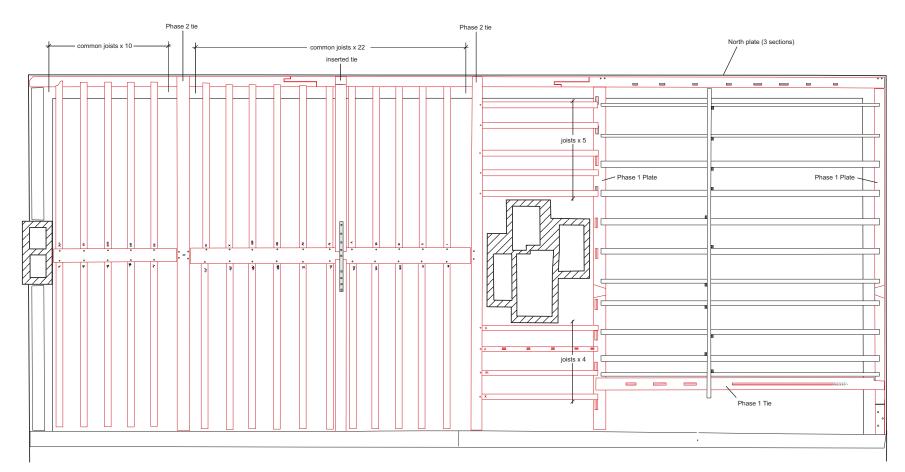




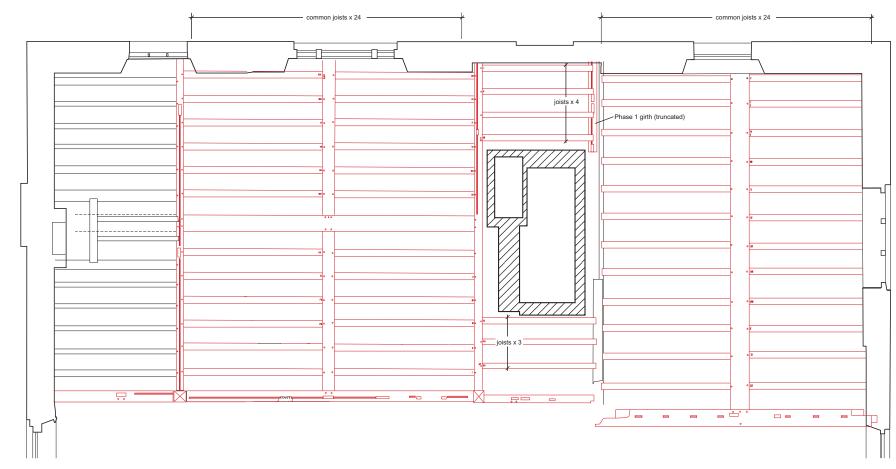
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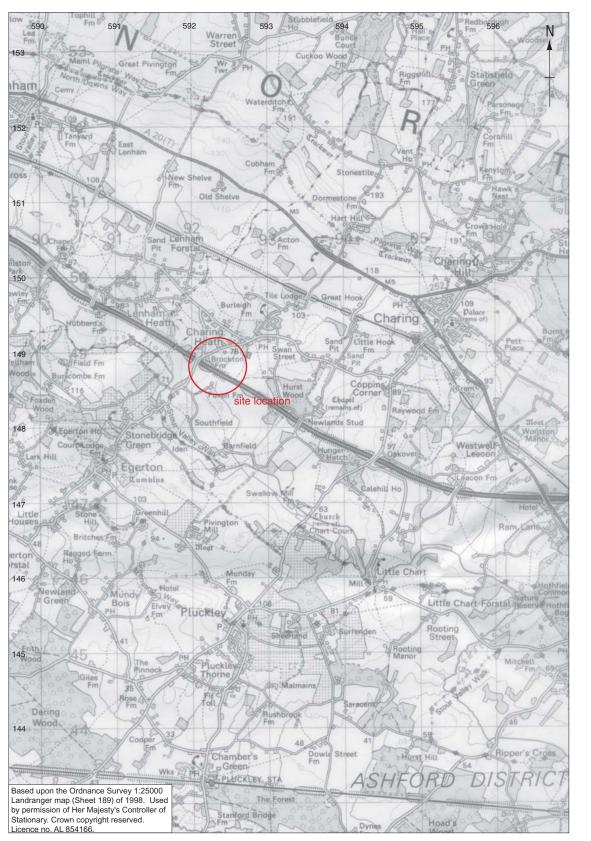
# (b) eaves level

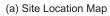


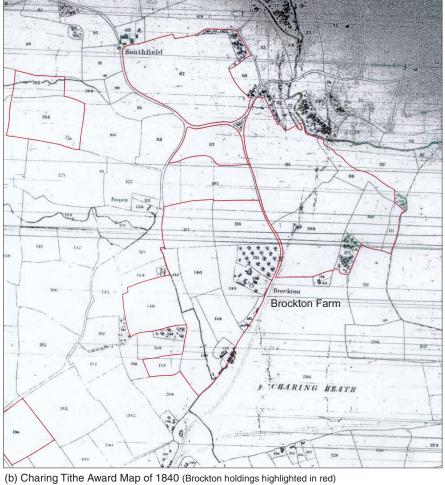
ARC BRO BS 99

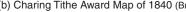
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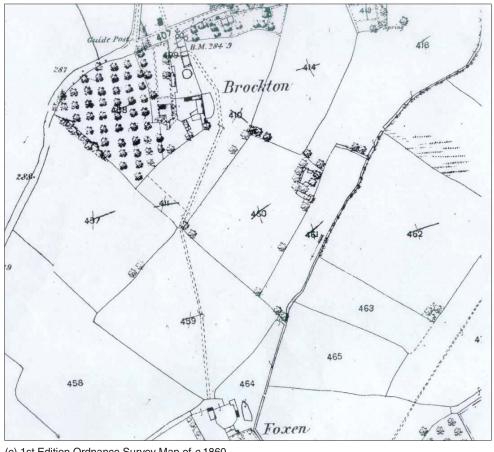
# (c) first floor level



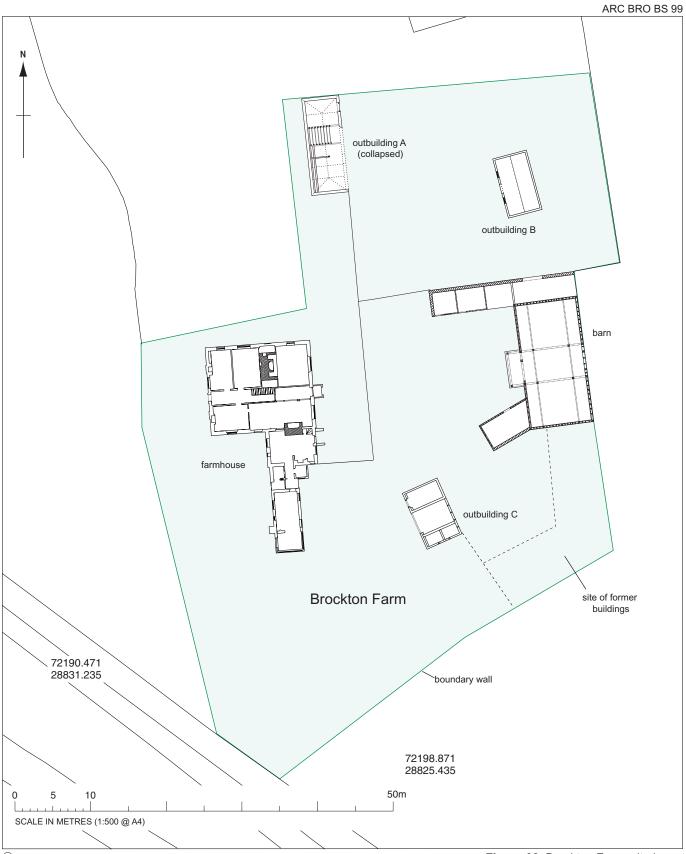






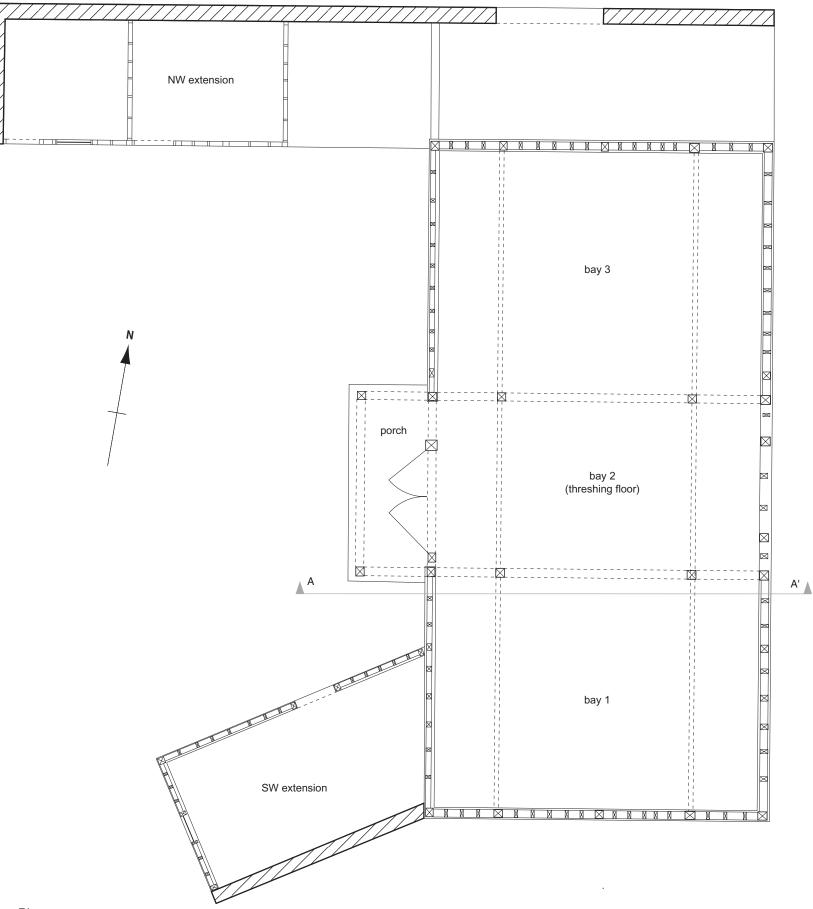


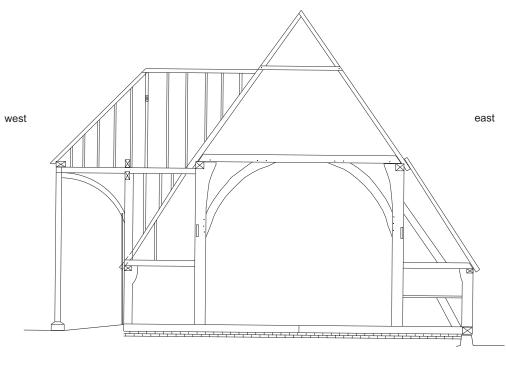
(c) 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map of c.1860



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Figure 02: Brockton Farm; site layout





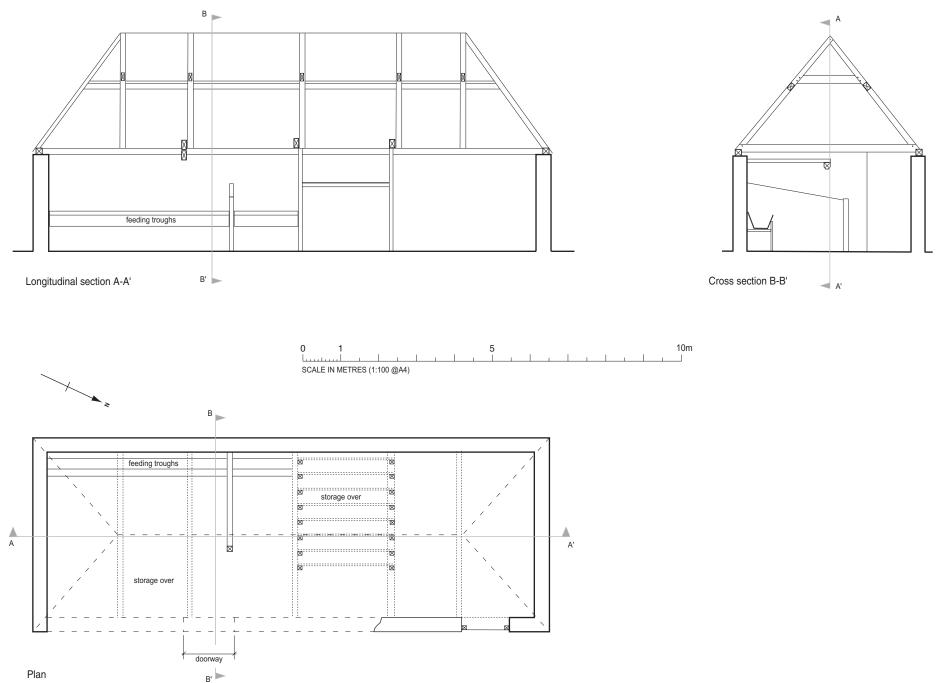
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SCALE IN METRES (1:100 @A3)

Plan

Section A-A'





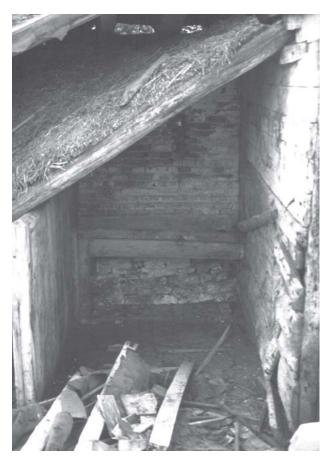
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(a) general view from south-east

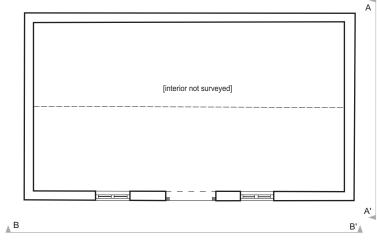


(b) detail of central partition



(c) detail of feeding troughs

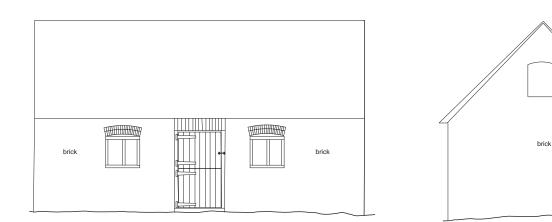




Plan

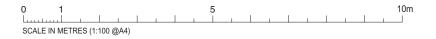
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X



West elevation B-B'

South elevation A-A'





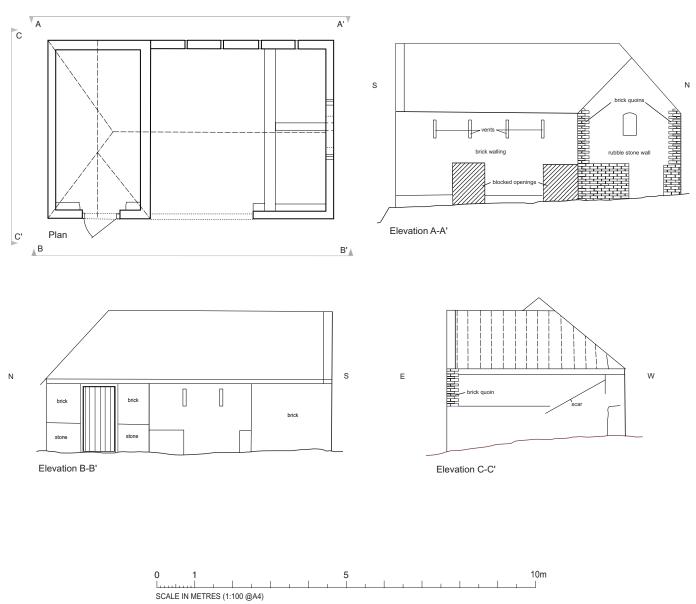
(a) west elevation





(b) east elevation

(c) south gable elevation



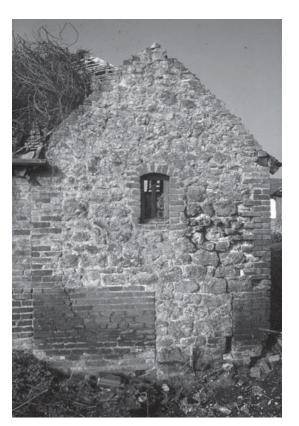
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(a) oblique view from the south-east



(b) south elevation; low level openings



(c) east elevation; northern gable end





(a) view from the south



(b) view from the north-west



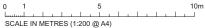
(c) general view from the north-east



(d) view from the east

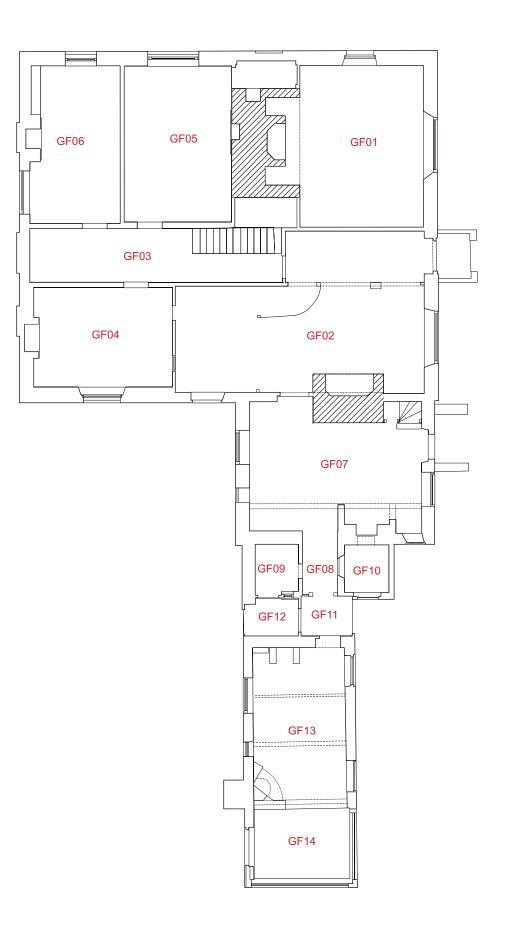
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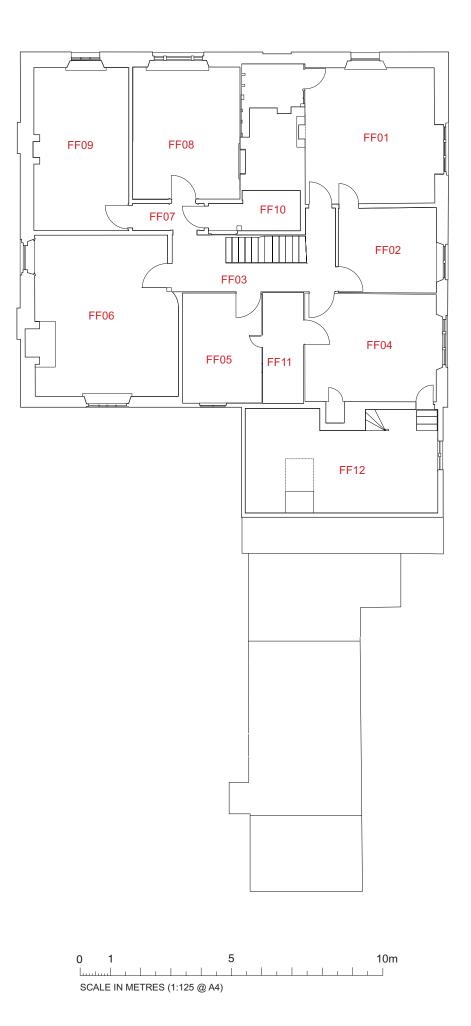
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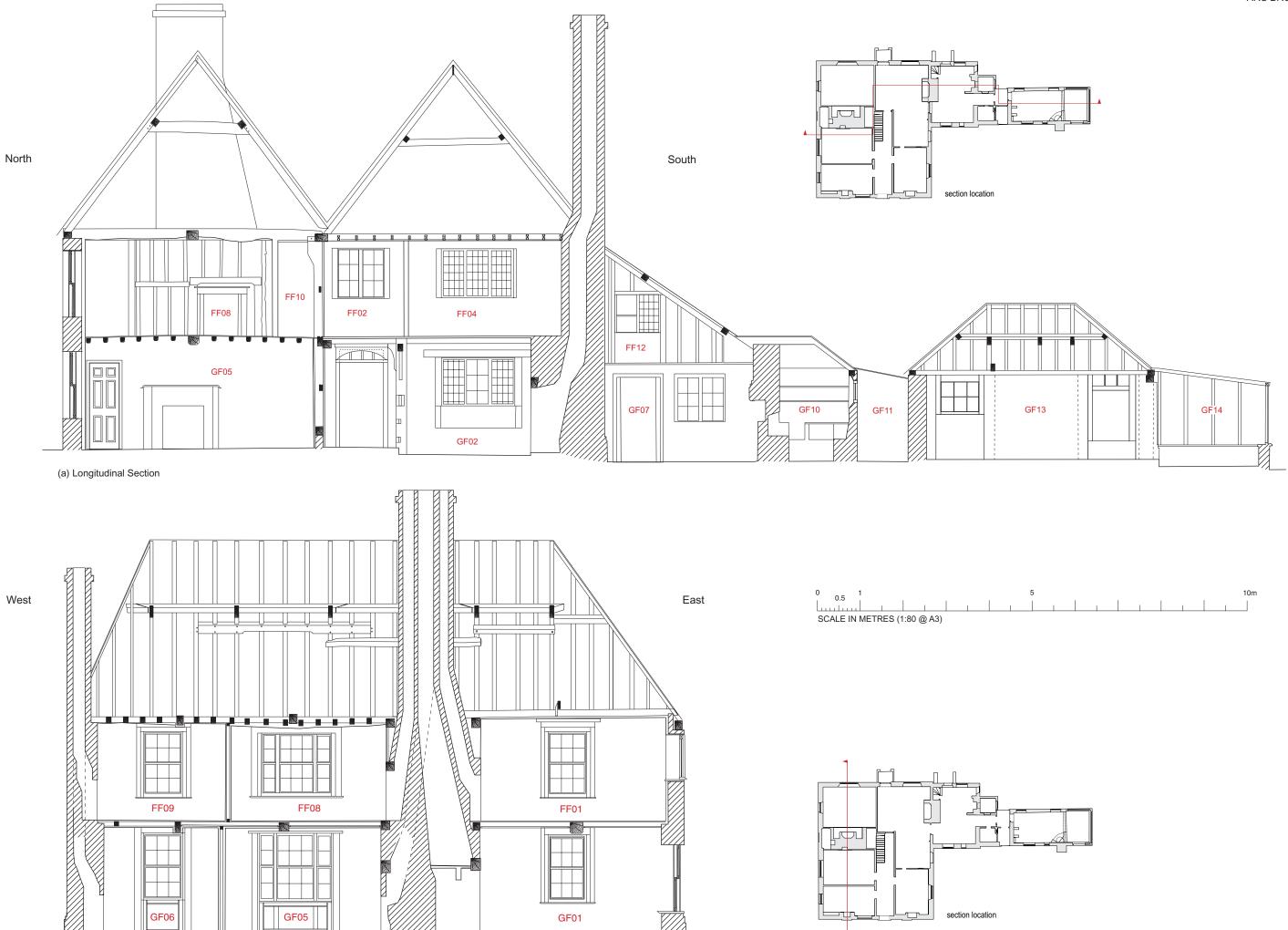


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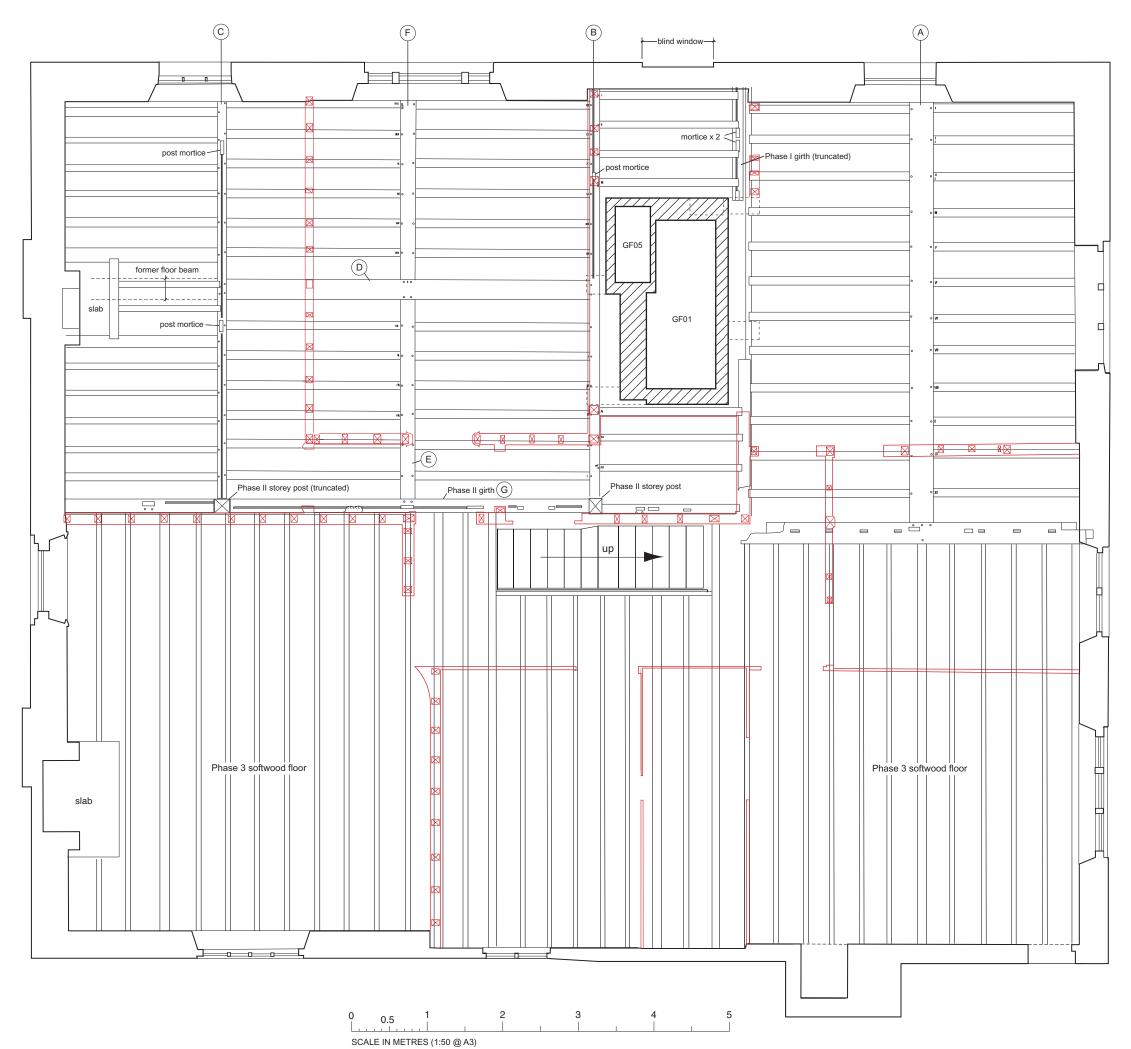


(b) Transverse Section

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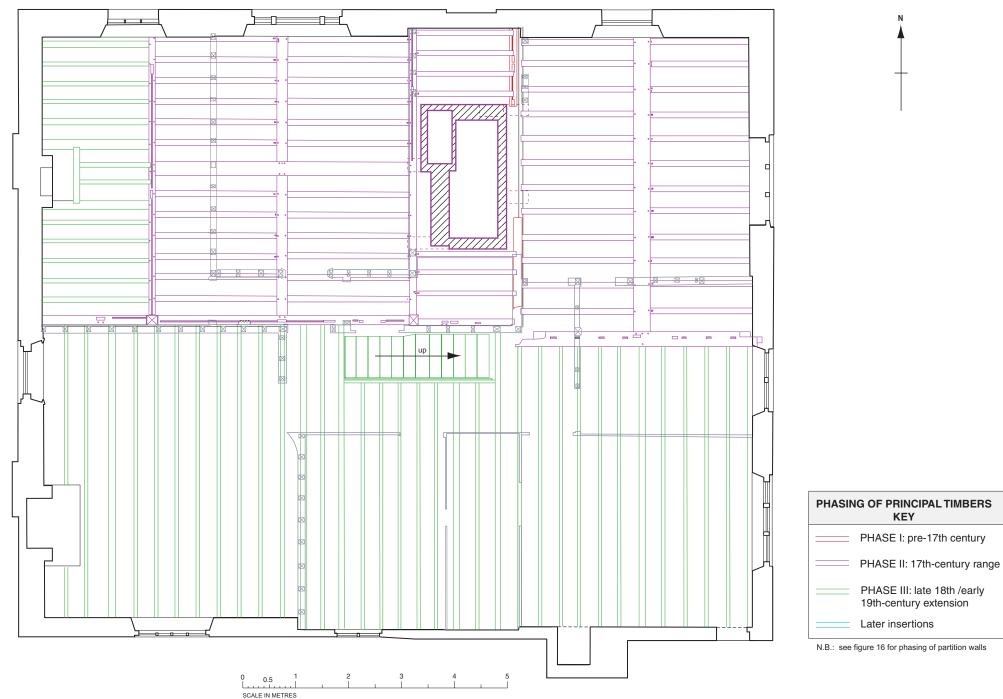
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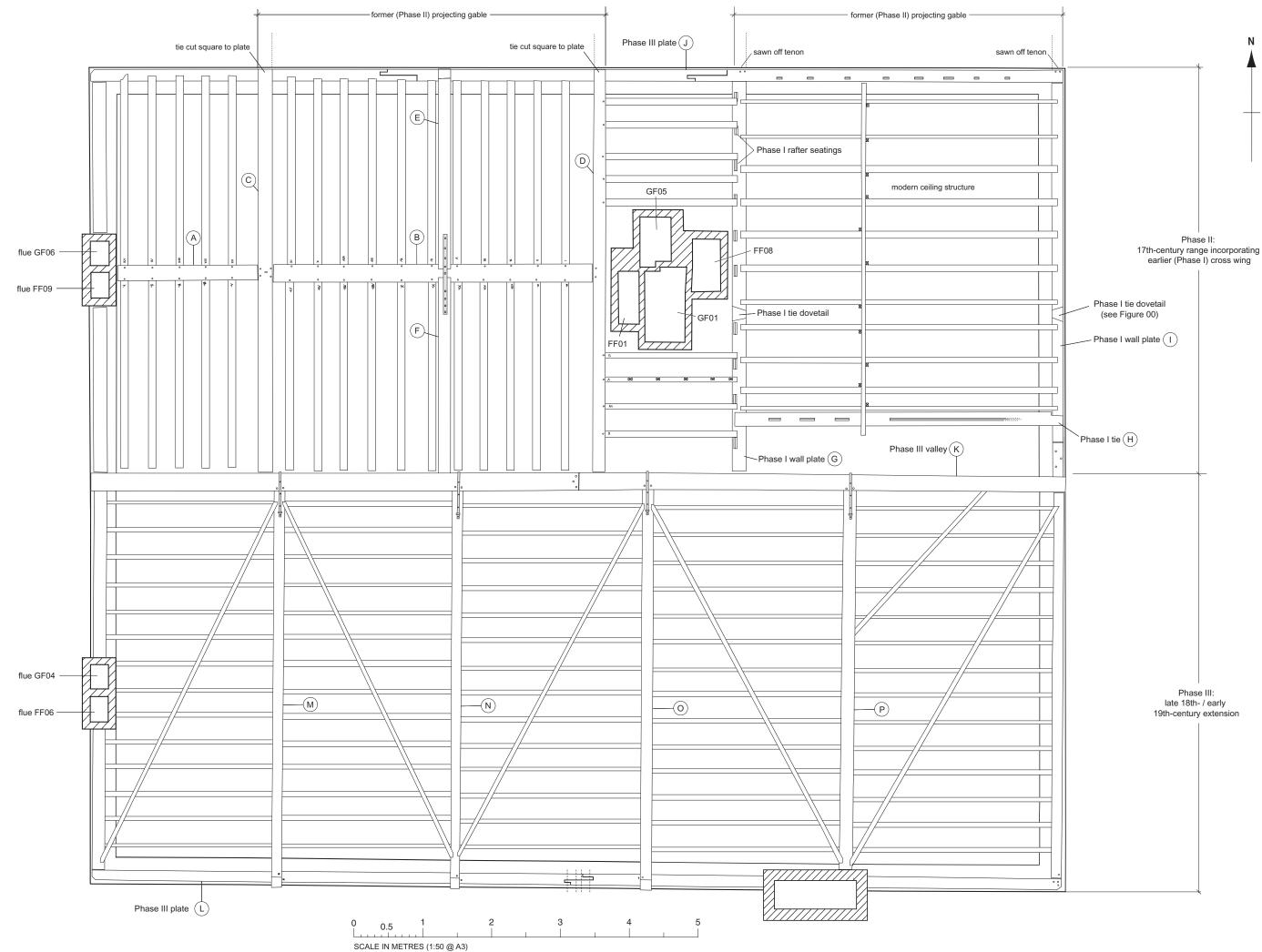


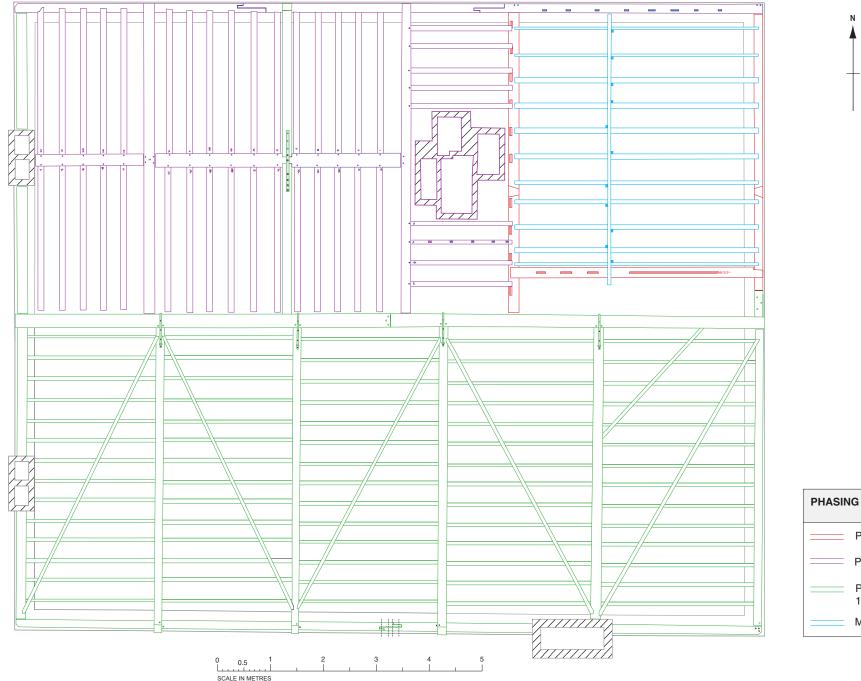


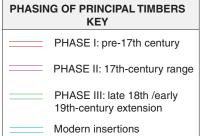


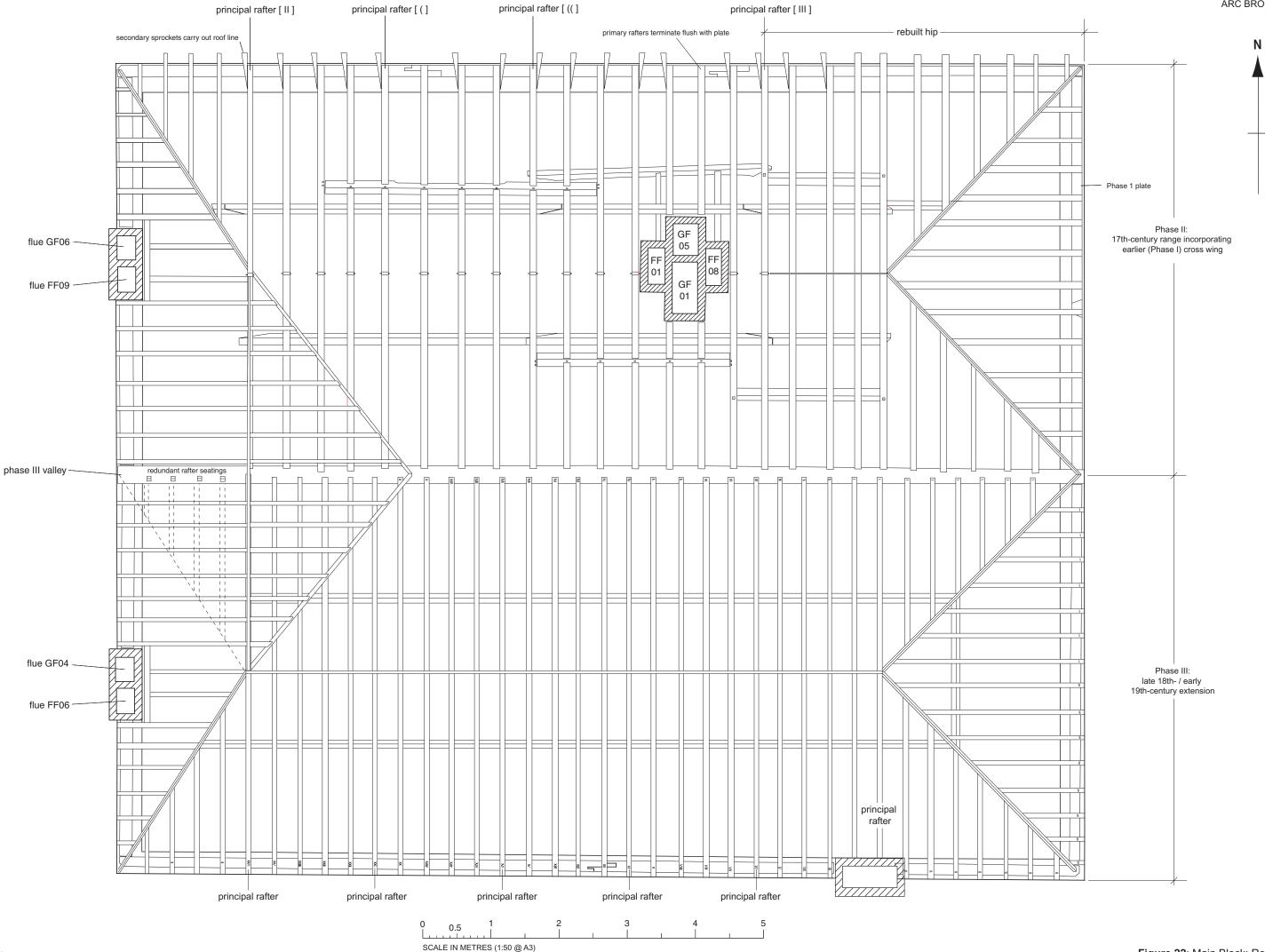
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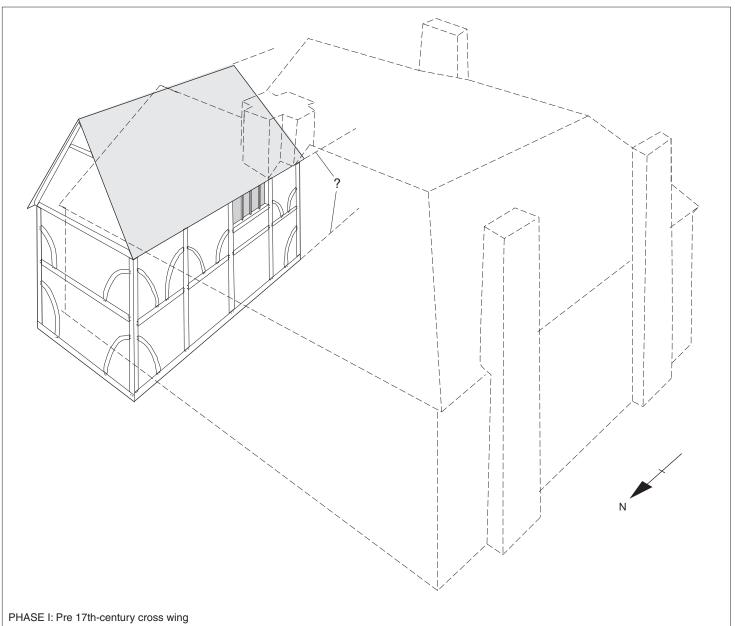




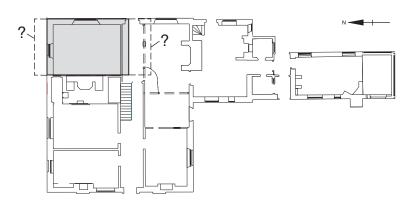








The evidence of roof timbers, specifically two plates and an *in-situ* tie beam, within the eastern part of the north range indicates the existence of a cross wing pre-dating the main 17th-century range. Details of wall framing indicated in the illustration above are for the most part conjectural, though evidence has been recorded for the upper floor window as shown (see Figure 00). It is probable that this two storey cross wing formed one part of a more substantial structure, perhaps including an attached open hall - evidence for such related structures has not been identified during the current study and so the cross wing only has been shown.



The limited nature of the evidence for the pre 17th-century building does not allow for a confident reconstruction of the northern and southern extent of the cross wing. It is clear, however, that it extended further north than the northern plate of the 19th-century building and further south than the surviving elements of the roof 17th-century roof. Excavation of the building footprint has unfortunately proved inconclusive in this respect.



(a) Surviving section of Phase I western tie to north of stack



(b) Redundant, former tie dovetail in eastern wall plate

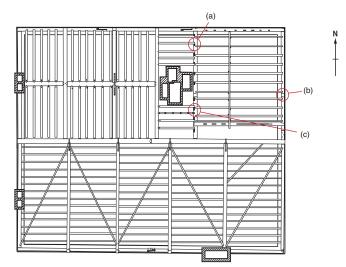
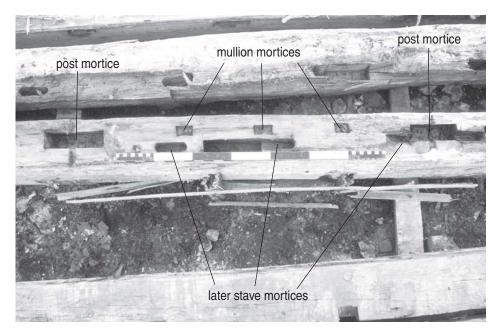
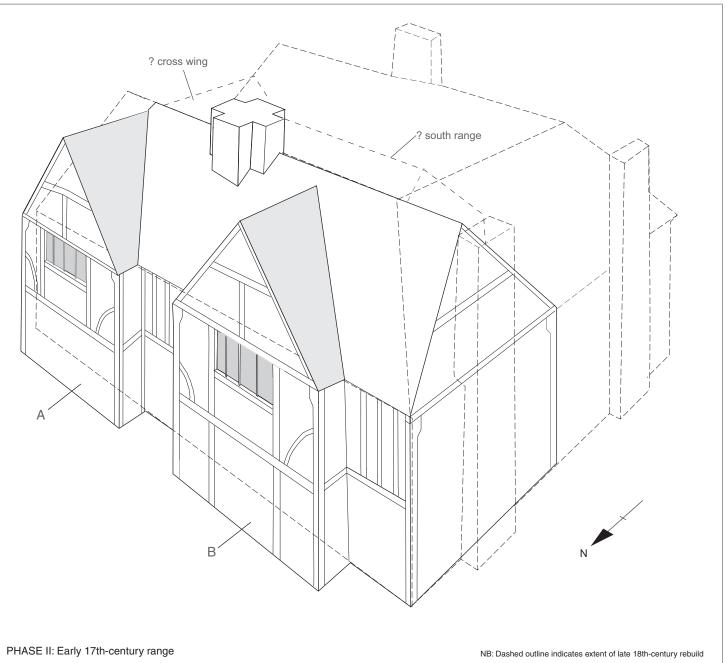


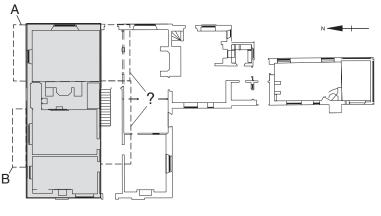
photo locations



(c) Evidence for Phase I window in soffit of western wall plate

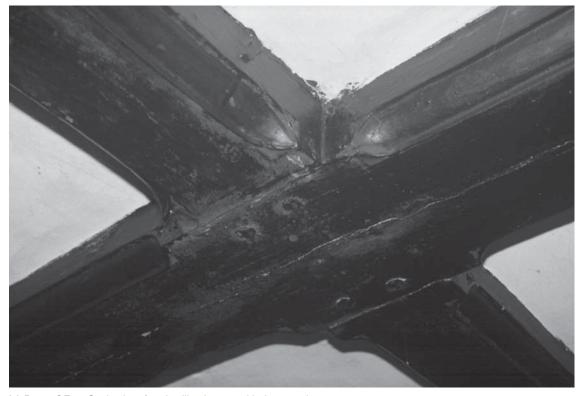


The study has revealed a well preserved 17th-century roof above the north range of the farmhouse, maintained and adapted during the late 18th/early 19th-century rebuilding. An analysis of the roof details has allowed for the reconstruction of two projecting gables (A and B) to the north elevation of the house, the eastern gable (A) probably representing the retention of the pre 17th-century wing within the frame of the 17th-century house which was thus, in effect, built up against the earlier structure.



In plan, the 17th-century range occupied the area of the northern part of the 19th-century farmhouse (left). The evidence of a fragment of the original southern wall of this range, surviving as the north wall of the corridor, indicated the former existance of a further southern range. It has not been possible, from the surviving evidence, to attempt an informed reconstruction of the southern range. Again, no evidence has been recovered from excavations to indicate the extent in plan of the southern range.

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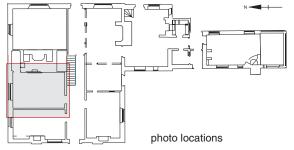
(a) Room GF05: Ovolo chamfered ceiling beams with decorated run-out stops



(b) Room FF08: floor structure



(c) Detail of FF08 floor structure



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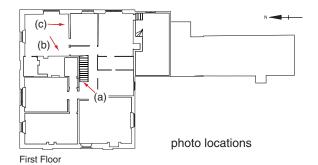
Figure 27: Room GF05/FF08; Details of 17th-century floor frame



(a) Room GF03: north wall of stair

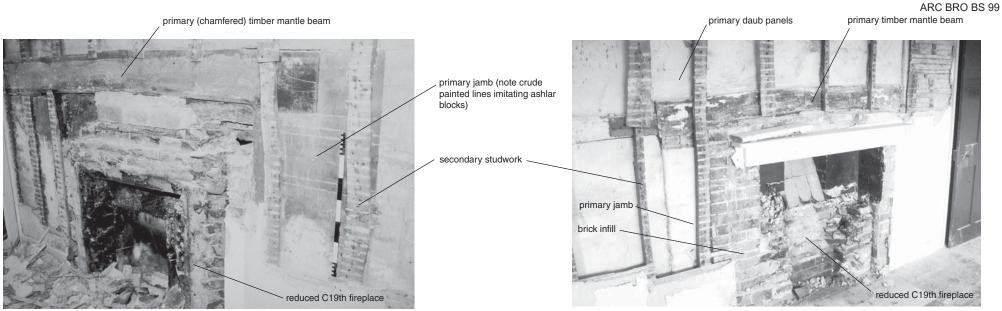


(b) Room FF01: south and west walls



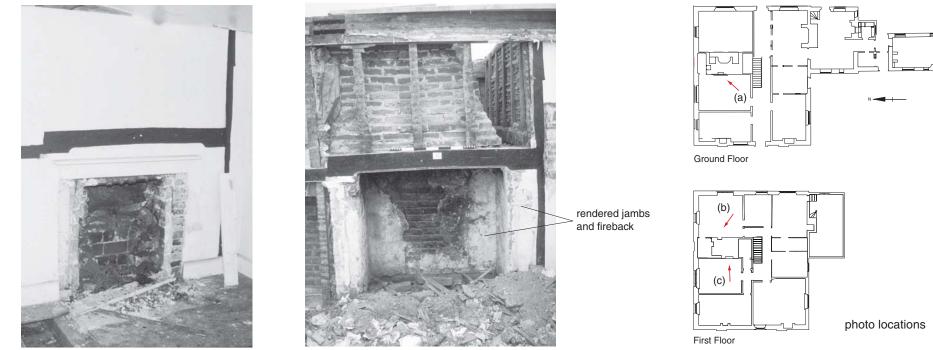


(c) Room FF01: south wall; note daub infill panels applied to laths



(a) Primary fireplace withi nRoom GF05 after initial opening up

(b) Primary fireplace within Room FF01 after initial opening up



(c) Primary fireplace within Room FF08 before (left) and after (right) stripping C Union Railways (South) Limited



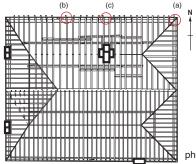
(a) sawn off tenon in outer face of north plate, east end



(b) tie beam sawn off flush with outer face of wall plate



(c) sawn off tenon in outer face of north plate



 $\bigodot \mathsf{U}\mathsf{nion}$  Railways (South) Limited

photo locations

ARC BRO BS 99



(a) Principal Rafter [ (( ] (NB. gauged marks)

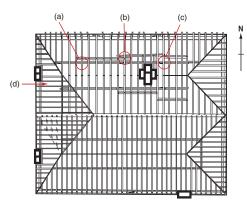


photo locations



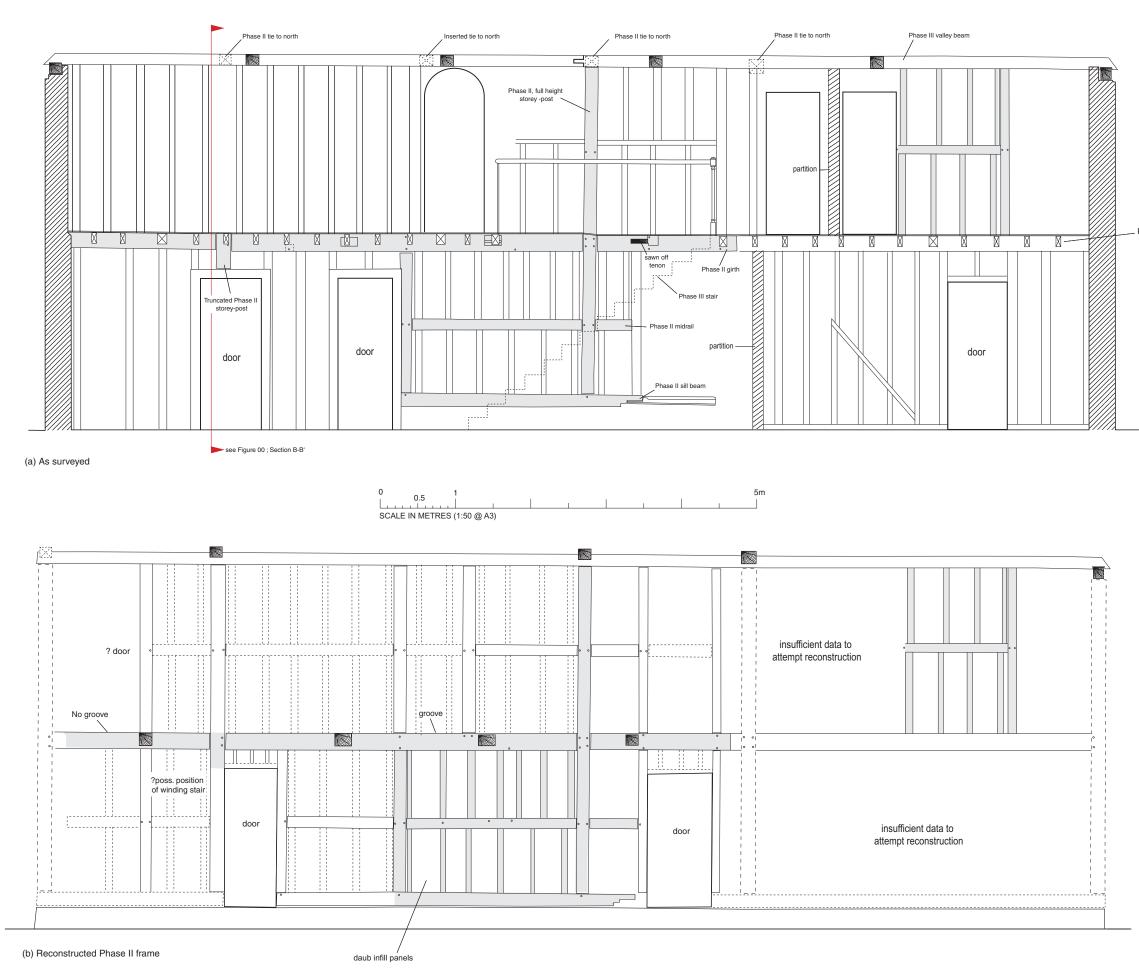
(b) Upper rafter and trimmer above former projecting gable



(c) Principal Rafter [ III ] (NB. chiselled marks)

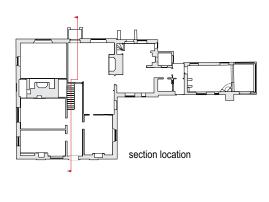


(d) General view along 17th-century roof towards contemporary brick stack



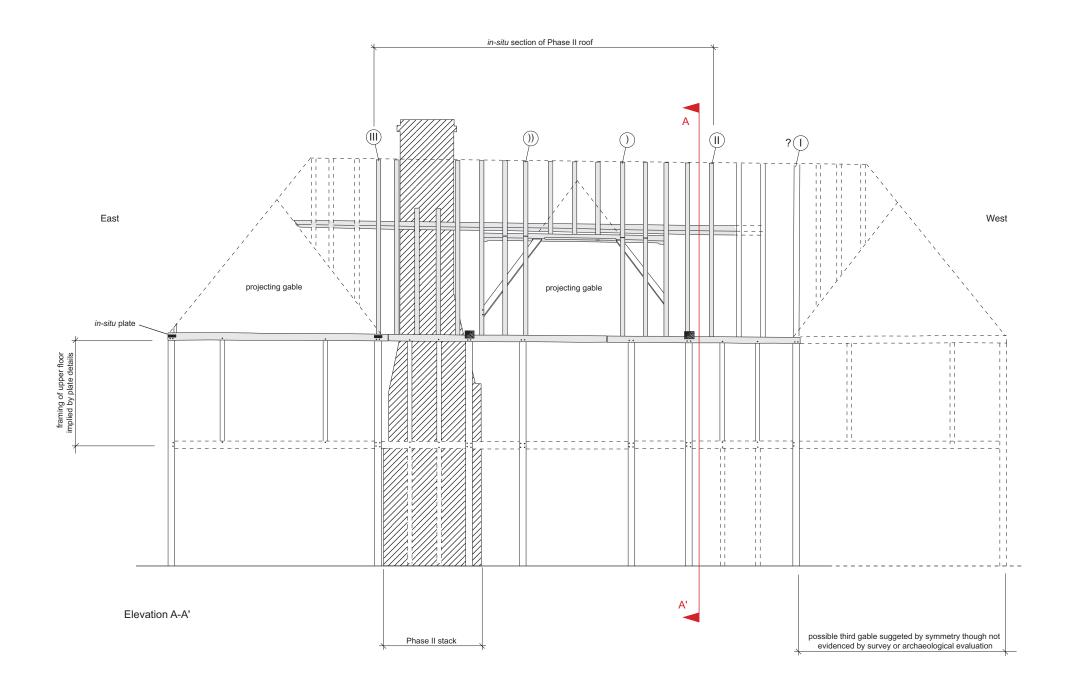
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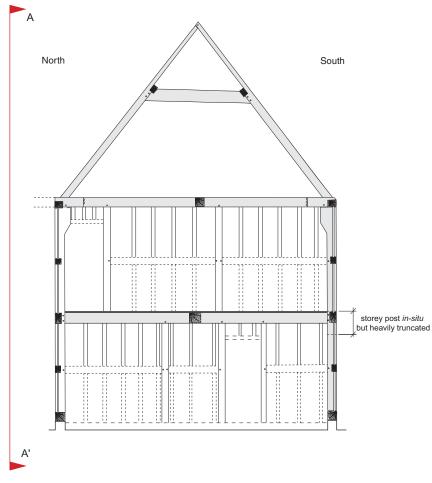
Phase III softwood floor





<i>in-situ</i> timbers
 timbers evidenced by surviving mortices / peg holes
 implied timbers

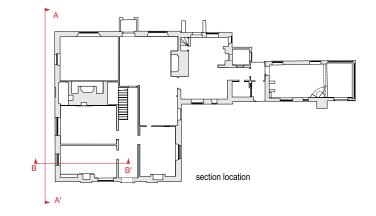






timbers evidenced by surviving mortices / peg holes

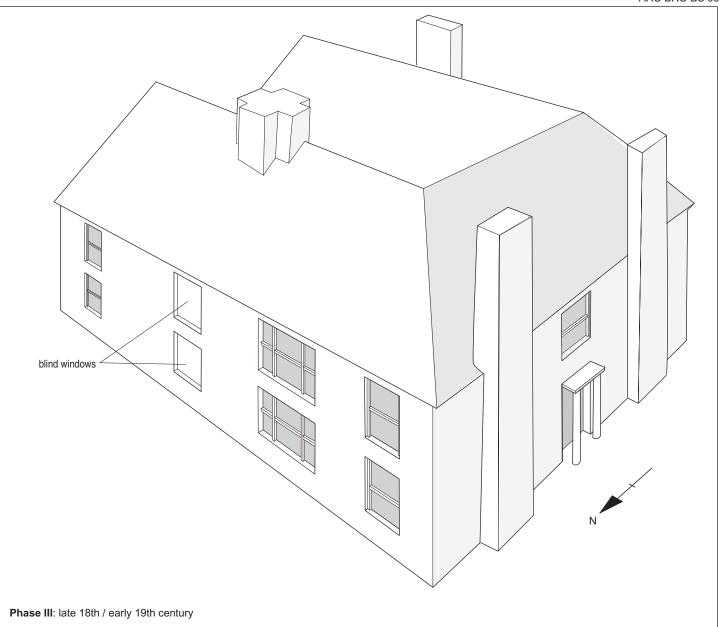
implied timbers



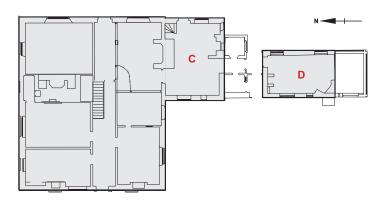


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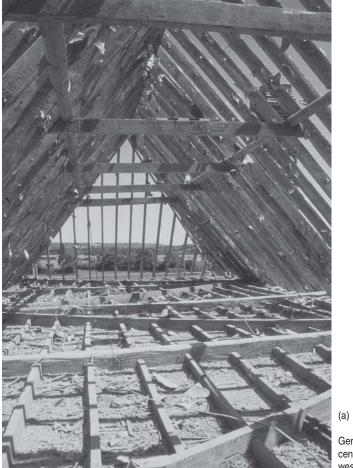
Figure 33: Extant and projected elements of Phase II timber frame



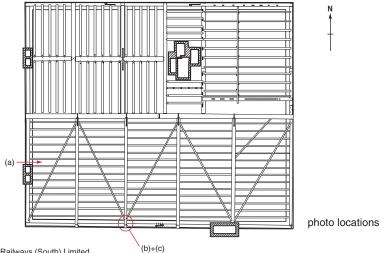
In the late 18th and early 19th century, the house was radically reordered and extended to the south to produce a double pile plan. During this phase of work, the surviving central section of 17th-century roof located to each side of the principal stack was left in-situ. The roof was apparently propped below the northern plate and the walls underbuilt in brick, resulting in the loss of most of the external framed walls. The eastern and western gable ends of the roof was erected over the southern range.



Although the evidence is somewhat contradictory, it appears likely that the pent-roofed extension (C) to the south of the main block represents an addition of the mid 19th century (c.1850), providing kitchen accommodation with servants quarters over. A small, detached rectangular outbuilding (D) was also added at this time, evidenced by its use of identical building materials.

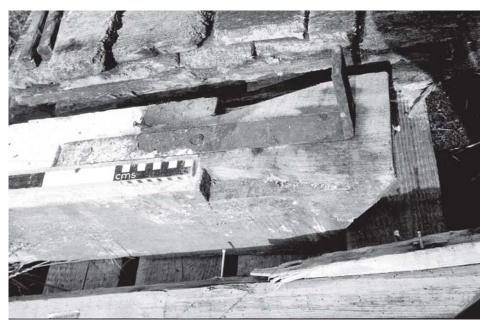


General view of 18th/19thcentury range roof from the west.



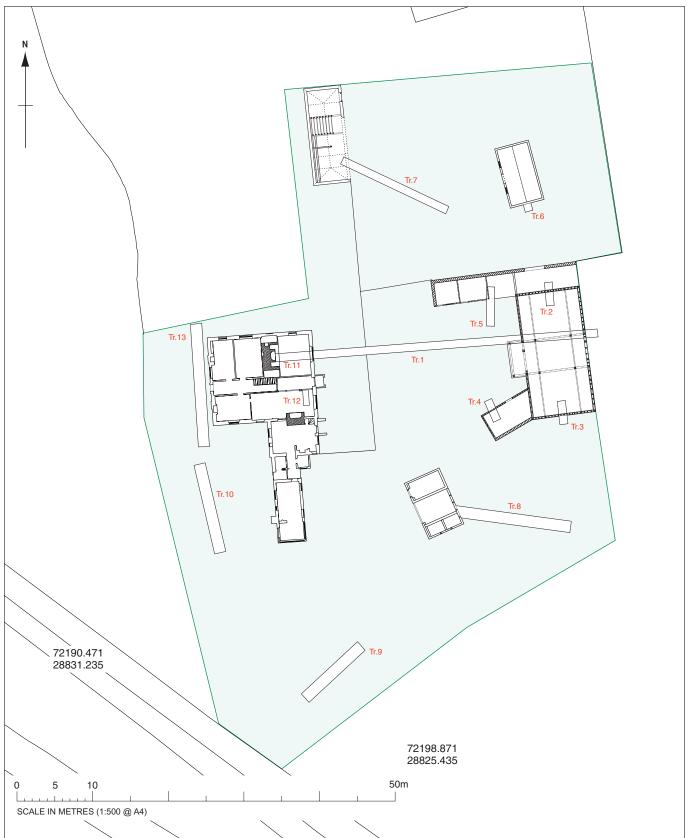


(b) Detail of jointing of tie at south plate; note iron strapping reinforcement



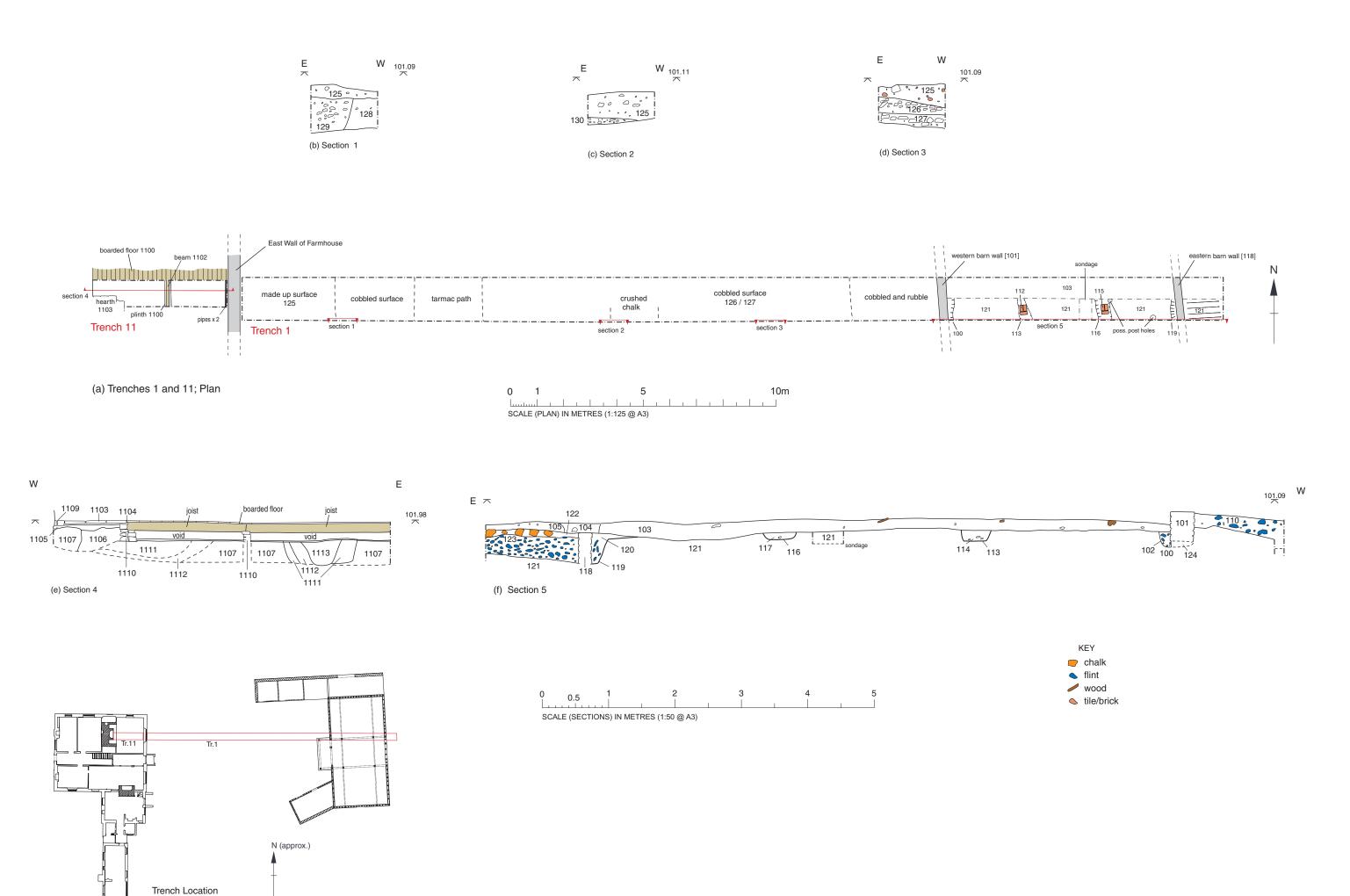
(c) Ex-situ detail of iron strapwork reinforcement let into soffit of tie

Figure 35: Details of late 18th/early 19th-century range roof

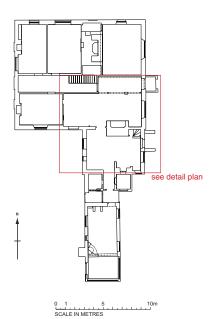


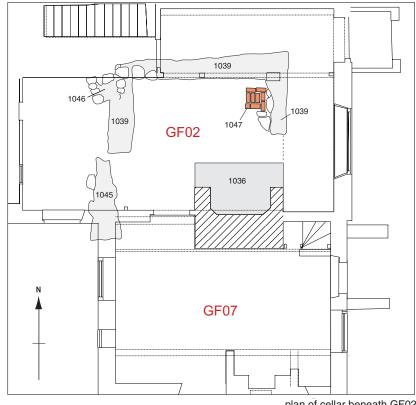
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Figure 36: Brockton Farm; trench location plan



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plan of cellar beneath GF02